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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

SHAKSPEARE A VILLAIN!

An Inquiry into the Philosophy and Religion of Shakspeare. By W. J. Birch, M.A., New Inn Hall, Oxon, Author of the "Real and the Ideal." Mitchell.

THERE have been many commentators on Shakspeare, and many of them great bores, and many of them foolish guessers at meanings that never could have had existence but in their own ignorance; and yet if we put them all together, they would not, to our mind, make up one such Wiseacre as Mr. W. J. Birch, M.A., of New Inn Hall, Oxon, and Author of the "Ideal, &c. &c."—this resplendent Master of Arts having taken it into his noddle that Shakspeare did not comprehend human nature, had no philosophy, and less religion, and was, in fact, an Ignoramus, Materialist, Scoffer at piety, Satirist of the clergy, Sceptic, Infidel, and Atheist, and, as "proved already," by everything he wrote, to be little better than a false knave, and will go near (under the charge of this new *Dogberry*) to be thought so shortly. "Oh, that we were here to write me down an ass! but, masters, remember that I am an ass; though it be not written down, yet forget not that I am an ass." . . . "I am a wise fellow, and one that knows the law, go to." "Oh, that I had been writ down an ass!"

The process by which our modern *Dogberry* arrives at his conclusions, bestowing, as he does, all his tediousness upon us, is simply by supposing that Shakspeare in all his characters spoke his own individual sentiments and opinions, and not those natural and appropriate to the characters. By this means, he demonstrates the sweet Bard of Avon to be as fiendish as Aaron, in *Titus Andronicus*; as sceptical as Hamlet, as impious as Richard III., as unchristian as Shylock, as voluptuous as Falstaff, as profane as Pistol, as immoral as Pandarus, as blasphemous as Othello, as defiant of Heaven as Lear, as atheistic as Macbeth or Julius Caesar, as truculent as Caliban: so that in the poet we have an incarnation of all the folly, vice, evil, and guilt, which we find depicted in the above named *dramatis persone*, and fifty others of every grade, which are, even in a *Dogberry*, too tedious to mention.

But, moreover, it is shown from his early association with Kit Marlowe and other contemporary loose companions, that Shakspeare was a drunken roisterer, full of obscenity and all kinds of wickedness. It is shown that in his life, as in his works, he was guilty of the heinous crime of cracking jests upon priests, friars, and the clergy; which, in the eyes of Master Birch, is a special offence, "tolerable and not to be endured." And it is shown that wherever he alludes to Scripture or Scripture language, it is an act of desecration which ought (though the entire circle of literature throughout centuries is filled with similar references) to call down upon him the reprobation of every virtuous soul.

Such are the dogmata of this over-righteous Critic; and upon his crass absurdities we shall only remark that we would not give one canon of Shakspeare's humanity for all his straining, towards the formation of a good and happy world rather than a world of sanctimonious hypocrisy, wherein profession and selfism drove the golden rule of Christianity from the hearts and actions of men.

Having offered these general remarks, it becomes our rather sickening task to follow the writer into some of his ridiculous details. Shakspeare, we are told, learnt much that was bad from his association with Marlowe in his early days: "From the accusation that Marlowe indulged too much in the por-

traiture of lust, villany, and ferocity, Shakspeare is not exempt. There are instances of it in other plays besides *Titus Andronicus*. Shakspeare treated religion with less respect even than Marlowe. He introduced obscenity, and went beyond him in profanity.

"We know very little of the personal history of Beaumont and Fletcher. Chalmers' Biographical Dictionary says of Beaumont, 'How his life was spent, and how his mind was occupied, his works show . . . his short span cannot be supposed to have been diversified by any other events than those that are incident to candidates for theatrical fame and profit.' These observations may be received as generally applicable to the lives of all the dramatists. Of Fletcher, it has been remarked, that 'it would not have been supposed he was the son of a bishop.' Jonson, thrown into prison for killing a man in a duel, said that he took his religion on trust from a Roman-catholic priest, who was in confinement with him, in which persuasion he remained for fourteen years. At the end of this time, it is not likely that a man of such easy faith would be troubled to distinguish for himself a creed; and, unless some new companion obliged him with one, (of which he has left us no notice,) it is probable that he spent the remainder of his days religionless. A bishop who visited him in his dying days, relates that he found him—'twixt wine and women, but that Jonson assured him he was sorry for the profanity of his works, especially for having ridiculed the Scriptures—a sorrow that all who have examined the writings of Jonson and Shakspeare will allow to be becoming in a greater degree, in the mouth of the latter dramatist."

A pretty set they must have been; but Shakspeare was also unfortunate in his friendly regards for other persons, not connected with the stage, as, for instance, Raleigh, since we are assured by Master Birch, "whatever his life and works may testify, it was a current opinion of his age that Raleigh was an Atheist." Bravo! what are a man's life and works to a current opinion? Verily, quoth our *Dogberry* to Shakspeare upon such proof, "O villain! thou wilt be condemned to everlasting redemption for this!" The poet's lines on John à Combe, and his own epitaph, are quoted in corroboration of his levity and scepticism. Poor Shakspeare!

"Blest be the man that spares these stones,
And curst be he that moves my bones."

What would he have said of the man that spared not his memory, but with a perversion of intellect, and a want of feeling and reverence for the dead beyond all precedent, did his miserable utmost to disparage his immortal part? The idiot reasoning will appear from the following passage—

"Shakspeare's opinion of his body, of his opinions, and his writings, was declared in the sonnet before quoted, where he apparently denies the redemption:—

But be contented: when that fell arrest,
Without all ball, shall carry me away."

Can foolery be carried further than this? Why, there is not the slightest approach to the denial of redemption; and the inevitability of death is the simple and only sentiment.

We shall proceed to some specimens of Shakspeare's improprieties and more serious offences, as he happened to commit them through the mouths of his characters. As *Pericles*, he "thanks 'fortune' for the recovery of his armour, but he rides to court without saying a word to heaven for his delivery from shipwreck. This thoughtless impiety more than counterbalances the ejaculatory religion.

"The Prince's invocation to God to still the storm, in the third Act, would pass for piety did he

not jumble God and Lucina together. But we have cited a sufficient sample of the play. To the end of it ludicrous junctions are presented. Pericles 'blesses pure Diana' for the restoration of Thaisa, although better piety has been found in his mouth. When Thaisa informs him her father is dead, he prays—'Heavens, make a star of him!'

Shakspeare (*quasi Pericles*) is here no better than half a pagan; and in Henry VI. he is yet worse, for "the warmest partizan of Shakspeare's faith must allow that the character of Henry, as drawn in these three Parts, is eminently calculated to bring piety into contempt." And it is added, "He who drew this character must have intended to insinuate, by a powerful example, the incompatibility of piety and manliness; or we must suppose him incapable of understanding either the force of words, or the force of character."

Such, to be sure, is his real historical character, but Shakspeare had no business with that; if he made him pious, he ought also to have him strong-minded, brave, and dignified!!

As *Hamlet*, Shakspeare is quite atrocious, worshipping Chance and disbelieving in Providence—

"Could he," asks Master Birch, "be less than a sceptic who drew Hamlet with the weight of argument in his favour? His wit so pointed, his objections so subtle, his balances so determined. None could delineate such a character but he who understood it, and none would exalt it (as Shakspeare does) but he who approved it."

"Of Hamlet's scepticism, his famous soliloquy, beginning 'To be or not to be,' is a demonstrative proof. Nowhere in the whole range of literature are the *pros* and *cons* of life and death put with such perverse force. That there may be an hereafter is the ancient position of the doubter. The Christian knows that there is a world to come. He is satisfied upon the point. He neither scruples, nor questions it. But Hamlet passes beyond mere doubt. He puts the moral disadvantages of the Christian belief. It 'makes calamity of so long life.' It makes us endure the 'proud man's contumely'—'the whips and scorns of time'—'the oppressor's wrong'—and a thousand evils which the brave would trample under foot. He pursues the disparaging comparison farther. 'It makes cowards of us all'—'resolution' loses its 'native hue,' and 'enterprise is turned away' at its fell glance. Nothing bold^{er} than this has been written on this theme. Language can no farther go in favour of disbelief."

When Milton drew the Devil, he must have made himself amenable to the same rule; "none could delineate such a character but he who understood it, and none would exalt it (as Milton does) but he who approved it."

The climax, however, seems to come with the crook-back tyrant, in whose unseemly form Shakspeare out-Shaksperes Shakspeare. "With 'hell' before his eyes, he resolves to brave it. There is not an example more questionable, in a religious point of view, nor a resolution more blasphemous on record."

Then as *Lancelot*, in the *Merchant of Venice*, he is guilty of an entire course of "sustained profanation;" as *Pandolph*, in *King John*, he is as strenuous for assassination as Fustell the Chartist; and in the *Bastard*, "impious without disguise." He is vile enough to borrow a play, *All's Well that Ends Well*, from an infidel writer of the fourteenth century, one Boccaccio; as *Bardolph*, he utters a sentiment which no Christian could hear without a shudder, (dear Master Birch must be in a sort of ague all the while he is reading Shakspeare); and as the *Clown*, in *Twelfth Night*, he mocks at the idea of a future state! As *Thersites*, he is impious throughout, and swears

by God's Lid, (most of our kings used similar adjurations;) and in *Othello* he is "unchristian," which one might fancy to be not quite so strange in a Moor! The lines

"Everlasting mansion,
Upon the beached verge of the salt flood,"

are not a mere description of the eternal rest ascribed, even in the Scriptures, to the dead, but a decided proof of materialism.

We have, we are afraid, gone more at length than was requisite to expose this piece of matchless absurdity. That any man who had taken an honourable Oxford degree could have penned such utter stuff, is a psychological problem which it would be difficult to solve; whilst the cant with which it is interlarded, and the intolerant spirit with which every letter is misinterpreted, tend to render it as disgusting as it is nonsensical. To Shakspeare the whole world is deeply and for ever indebted, for he has made all mankind akin, except this ludicrous commentator, who might as well try to spurt dirt upon the effulgent sun as to spit his slaver upon the greatest brightness that ever adorned and ennobled mortality. We can hardly be grave upon such buffoonery, and with regard to its most inherent disgusting quality, of which the book from beginning to end exhibits one tissue, we must again refer to *Dogberry*, and in his words address Master Birch—

"Nay, an' you be a cursing hypocrite once, you must be looked to."

You shall not exalt yourself at the expense of Shakspeare!!!

DR. HOOKER'S VOYAGE TO INDIA.

Notes of a Tour in the Plains of India, the Himala, and Borneo; being Extracts from the Private Letters of Dr. Hooker. Part I., England to Calcutta. Reeve, Benham, and Reeve.

DR. HOOKER, the able son of an able sire, and following in his footsteps with distinguished success, has departed on a Government botanical mission to the countries above indicated; and this too brief brochure may be taken as a foretaste or whet to his more elaborate scientific researches. It is a delightful sketch of his journey to Calcutta, together with the suite of Lord Dalhousie; and not only in regard to botany, but to general observations, we have found it altogether a very pleasant and instructive publication.

To show that it is so, we shall select a few morsels to lay before our readers, and without further phrase, are off in her Majesty's steam frigate "Sidon," hoping, however, that we shall not prove so slow a reviewer as she is a sailer. At Lisbon, Dr. Hooker remarks on the people:—

"This Portugal is an almost desolate and comparatively uninhabited land, not so much from the faults of the government as the character of the people. Often have I wondered how it came to pass, that a nation once so famous, and from whom sprung the precursors of discovery in both worlds, should have fallen so suddenly and so low. But it was GOLD alone that roused their energies: the Portuguese are naturally dirty, indolent, and immoral. It is hard to say what will become of them. The land is rich and productive, the climate delicious, and the people do not possess that warlike and romantic temperament which continually causes their neighbours, the Spaniards, to be in hot water. I have seen the Portuguese in Madeira, the Cape de Verdes, Brazil, and now at home, and they are alike everywhere, and I never wish to come in their way again."

He, and, we daresay, the Governor-General and his lady, are glad to get from among them, though only to get among the apes at Gibraltar. These, however, were also left behind, and Malta, and Alexandria, and lo, we are on the Nile, where "it rained tremendously, and we got very wet during the embarkation. Here we were received on board a very pretty steamer, of the size of a Greenock boat, very swift, and well-built and found: she is the pleasure yacht of Mehemet Ali, which he placed at our disposal. The after part was given up to Lord

and Lady Dalhousie: it was gorgeously fitted with white shot satin, all worked with gold and scarlet flowers, heavy gilt and silver ornaments, Turkey carpets an inch thick, and everything in the most costly and splendid style, short of solid gold and jewels. Only Lord and Lady Dalhousie enjoyed this splendour, however, for we messed on deck; and the accommodations for the rest of us, including the prime minister of Egypt, were comparatively poor, and consisted of little cabins with sofas, and no washing appurtenances. We had to sleep two in each cabin, happily the weather was remarkably cold, and for washing we were sore put to, till we be-thought ourselves of the tin cocked-hat boxes, which, opening through the middle, made two basins at once. Our repasts were sumptuous, served in the French fashion, and with French cookery, on silver and gold plate. Next morning we were half-way to Cairo: the Nile looked a tame river, but association gave interest to its ordinary features."

About Cairo, we think, we have had in our time, nearly enough in the *Literary Gazette*, though Dr. Hooker found it to be a most interesting place for everything but botany. But if there were no new plants to form a curious herbarium, he gives us a good account of some old vegetation in the following extract:—

"I determined upon a trip into the Desert, to see the *Fossil Forest*, as a large tract of country covered with fossil wood is called. Several of the officers of the 'Sidon' joined me, of which I was very glad, for they kindly undertook all the provisioning for the day. We started very early, mounted upon jackasses: I also took a servant to carry my traps, together with two mules and attendants to bring back specimens of the wood. Though few plants were procurable, I was anxious to make observations on the temperature of the soil and dryness of the Desert, that I might know how near to the starving and burning point vegetation would exist, as supplementary to my many observations in the Antarctic Expedition of how much cold they can bear.

"Our course lay to the south of Cairo, along the ridge of hills at whose Nileward termination the city is built. These hills are of limestone, and so were the first few miles of desert we traversed. We emerged from the town at the citadel, about two hundred feet above the Nile, the rest of the town, and Great Desert itself. The sun was rising when we passed the Palace, and a very grand sight it was. It rose from the eastern Desert, hot, orange-red, and scorching to behold. A few strips of cloud on the horizon crossed its upward path, and through them was darted a flood of great beams slanting along the parched soil, dancing on the polished alabaster Mosque close by us, and shooting across the Nile to the Pyramids on the far-west horizon, some ten miles off. To the east, south, and south-east, stretched a fiery desert; below, we saw the town of Cairo bristling with minarets, and the long shining Nile, wending its way from south to north through emerald-green pastures, gardens, Date-groves, and scattered white buildings, its surface spotted with latteen-sailed boats. This green belt reached to the very base of the Pyramids, and was there met by another apparently endless desert, covered with a light haze, and backed by low hills of sterile sand. After a little space, another desert horizon rose with the light far to the south, the Nile again glanced in it like a twisted silver wire, its course marked by still other pyramids, so distant as to appear no more than dusky triangular spots. Beyond these, the site of Thebes, Memphis, Luxor, Edfon, the far-away Cataracts, and Meroe are seen only in the imagination.

"For the first few miles out of Cairo there was scarce a trace of vegetation, or merely a few exposed stems here and there above the naked soil, wholly destitute of leaves. This is the sterile season, and past even seed-time in the Desert, which is, of course, not affected by the inundations of the Nile. About five or six miles south of Cairo the scenery changes totally, the country being more broken up into broad valleys with steep cliffy piles of limestone

on each side, and every here and there a little vegetation, *Zygophylla*, *Rutaceae*, *Capparidæ*, a spiny cruciferous plant, some tufts of grass, and a *Hyoscyamus*, full of leaf all the year round, brilliantly green, and very succulent, which resembles a *Chenopodium*, and spreads straggling along the ground. Some *Zygophylla* are also green; but the few other species I saw were small-leaved, withered things. Of trees and bushes there are none. All the soil is limestone rock, with a profusion of sand and pebbles, and occasionally fragments of fossil-wood. As we proceeded, the bits of fossil-wood became more and more frequent and larger, till, about eight or ten miles S. E. of Cairo, the whole pebbly and rocky soil of the plain part of the Desert consisted of fossil-wood, chiefly rolled pebbles and fragments, but now and then huge trunks, prostrate and half-buried in the sand, always broken up into truncheons. Most of them were heaped together in the greatest confusion: more rarely, individual trees lay isolated, frequently 70 feet long, some 120, and it is said even 140. Their colour is generally dark reddish-brown: they are all chalcedony and agate of a coarse description, with the rings of the wood well preserved. The sandy limestone (full of shells) and soil of the Desert are white; so that this fossil vegetation contrasted curiously with the general appearance of the country. Here the Paeha had sunk a pit for coal, sapiently concluding that so much fossil-wood above-ground indicated no less below. He however did not get through the limestone rock, which is subjacent to the formation to which I presume the fossil-wood belongs. Contrasted with the surrounding sterility, this record of a once luxuriant vegetation is a very impressive object, for it is not confined to a few miles only of Desert, but (I am given to understand) extends forty or fifty in one direction. I do not at all suppose that these forests ever characterized the Desert, or the land now replaced by desert, in its present relation to the general features of Egypt. On the contrary, I expect that the fossil trees were imbedded in layers of conglomerate and sandstone which have been gradually destroyed by the ocean, leaving the silicified trees to resist, for the greater part, the action of that surf by which the softer rock was triturated, forming the sand and pebbles of the Desert. About one hundred miles above Cairo the sandstone rocks commence and the limestone ceases; and as on the Nile behind Cairo detached masses of the same sandstone rock as the statue of Memphis is out from occur, so it appears probable that this pebbly bed with fossil-trees belonged to that series of rocks, all of which, south of lat. 29°, are washed away, leaving only the agatized trees, all grievously water-worn, many being ground up with the sand into pebbles. A white snail was very abundant everywhere, feeding on the *Zygophylla* and cruciferous plants. This mollusk does not occur south of 29°, i.e., of the limit of the limestone.

"After lading my sorry beasts with as many specimens as they could conveniently carry, we turned back and arrived late in the evening at Cairo, thoroughly tired, drenched with perspiration, and very shaken with the long donkey-ride. My plants amounted to six species in all, none different from what I afterwards saw in crossing from Cairo to Suez."

Half-way on this route, Dr. Hooker tells us, "the Desert was a large bed of gravel, all pebbles as far as the eye could reach, except when the long, low, steep piles of limestone occurred, and these were far off. The pebbles were sometimes arranged in lines of heaps, having sandy intervals, whereon were scattered plants of *Hyoscyamus*, some Grasses, *Rutaceae*, *Capparidæ*, *Heliotropium* (?), and *Zygophylla*. Altogether there were not five individuals of any kind to an acre of surface. The soil was chilled by nocturnal radiation, and the pebbles were covered with dew of only 44° temperature, the air in the shade being 47°. In digging down, the temperature gradually rose one degree for every inch down to ten inches, beyond which I could not dig. Even in this winter-time, I found the sun's rays give a heat of

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100° to the soil; so that the poor plants have to undergo in winter a change of 50° every day. Here the only water they get is by the dew forming on them during the night. Unhappy plants! supposing their feelings to be like ours, who desire to drink most when most heated."

A touch at Aden, and several interesting excursions from the hospitable residence of Captain Haines, the East India political governor of that important settlement, bring us into some acquaintance with its characteristic features, especially with the highest ridge of the Island of Shumsun, 1700 feet above the sea level. Here Dr. Hooker says—

"We scrambled up one of the gullies over stony barren hills that led to the flat. The latter is about 800 feet up, a black waste of volcanic cinders, utterly destitute of vegetation or life, and so heated that the atmosphere for some feet above is flickered like smoke. Though now mid-winter, it was dreadfully hot, the soil below the surface being 107° at 2 p.m., which must be far below the summer heat."

Ceylon and Madras are visited *en route*, (as our novelists and newswriters always call being on the way), and at the latter, where Lady Dalhousie had the happiness to meet her father and mother, the Marquis and Marchioness of Tweeddale, there were gorgeous receptions and processions in the magnificent oriental fashions. Dr. Hooker proceeds to notice—

"There was but a small dinner party: the guests consisted chiefly of military gentlemen, among whom was General Cubbon, Political Agent for all Mysore, almost the first appointment in India, keeping state and honour like a Prince for all comers to Bangalore. The surgeon had come down with him, from whom I obtained a great deal of information about the cultivation of cotton in his part of India, where the heat and dryness of the summer cause wine-glasses to snap off at the stem without being touched, and Teak-wood tables to split across the grain."

From Madras to Calcutta, and the narrative breaks off: we look for its resumption with the anticipation of more very agreeable reading.

CENTO.

Hactenus: Sundry of my Lyrics Hitherto. By M. F. Tupper, D.C.L., F.R.S. Hatchard and Son.

THE author of *The Croak of Gold* and *Proverbial Philosophy* is known to the readers of the *Literary Gazette* as a genuine poet and an original thinker. We had the pleasure of offering him his first welcome (we believe) when he struck out a "fytte" of no ordinary kind, extremely fanciful, somewhat doubtful to the slight observer, but sufficient to indicate to us genius which only wanted culture to take its place in that upper region whither Mediocrity and Imitation strive to ascend in vain. Nay, the beautiful "New Year" (p. 1), "The Complaint of an Ancient Briton" (p. 28), and "My Children" (p. 58), in this little volume have already enriched our page. The poems entitled the "Harvest Hymn," "Waterloo," "Roleia," and perhaps one or two others, have also, we are aware, oozed into great popularity; but, with these exceptions, we fancy none of the other pieces have previously appeared in print. Upon these we have to exercise our calling; and it is a pleasant duty. Here is a glowing stanza to begin with:

"All for the best! then fling away terrors,
Meet all your fears and your foes in the van,
And in the midst of your dangers or errors
Trust like a child, while you strive like a man:
All's for the best!—unbias'd, unbounded,
Providence reigns from the East to the West;
And, by both wisdom and mercy surrounded,
Hope and be happy that All's for the best!"

Then how touchingly natural are the following opening reflections in "The Riddle Read."

"World of sorrow, care, and change,
Even to myself I seem
As adown thy vale I range,
Wandering in a dream:
All things are so strange.

"For, the dead who died this day,
Fair and young, or great and good,
Though we mourn them, where are they?
—With those before the flood;
Equally past away!"

"Living hearts have scanty time
To feel some other heart most dear,
Scarce can love the love sublime
Unselfishly sincere,—
Death nips it in its prime!"

"Minds have hardly power to learn
How much there is to know aright,
Can dimly thro' the mist discern
Some little glimpse of light,—
The order is, Return!"

"Life" is but a summary of this, beginning—

"*ῥαῖς γὰρ ἡ ζωὴ ἡμῶν; ἀρπύς.*
A busy dream, forgive ere it fades,
A vapour, melting into air away,
Vain hopes, vain fears, a mesh of lights and shades,
A chequered labyrinth of night and day,
This is our life; a rapid surgy flood
Where each wave hunts its fellow; on they press;
To-day is yesterday, and hope's young bud
Has fruited a to-morrow's nothingness:
Still on they press, and we are borne along,
Forgetting and forgotten, trampling down
The living and the dead in that fierce throng,
With little heed of Heaven's smile or frown,
And little care for others' right or wrong,
So we in iron selfishness stand strong."

"The Dead, a Dirge," must be read entire to be felt in its earnest and inward communion, and many pieces for music we should love to see fraternizing with the instrument, and sung by some sweet voice. But we have done enough for a writer whose strains we see echoed in many American and Colonial journals, and shall therefore conclude with his first stanza in "The Poet's Wealth," which shows that he is aware of, and gratified by, the reward due and paid to his labours far and wide:

"I number you by thousands, unseen friends,
And dearly precious is your love to me;
Yea, what a goodly company ye be!
Far as the noble brotherhood extends
Of Saxon hearts and tongues o'er land and sea:
How rich am I in love!—the sweet amends
For all whatever little else of pain
Some few unkindly cause;—most rich in love,
From mine own home to earth's remotest ends:
Let me then count my store, my glorious gain,
This wealth, that my poor merit far transcends,
Your loving kindness, echoing from above
The Highest Blessing on my works and ways,
Εὐ δοῦλε ἀγαθὲ, my Father's praise."

Evangeline: a Tale of Acadie. By Professor Longfellow. Kent and Richards.

A POPULAR production of the American poet, descriptive of the cruel persecution of the French settlement of Acadie by the treacherous and remorseless British. It is in an Ossianic style; has many poetical beauties; is somewhat elaborated, as if undertaken as a fancy, but found to need a great deal of work to make out an artistic performance; and the whole (probably in consequence of this necessity) a strange admixture of New World, common English, and old-dated classic imagery. The story of *Evangeline* is a portion of the something wanted to complete a something. From a verse about asphodel flowers and the dews of nepenthe, she sets out from "Mission," in search of her lover, Gabriel:—

"When over weary ways, by long and perilous marches,
She had attained at length the depths of the Michigan forests,
Found she the hunter's lodge deserted and fallen to ruin!"

"Thus did the long sad years glide on, and in seasons and places

Divers and distant far was seen the wandering maiden:—
Now in the tents of grace of the meek Moravian Missions,
Now in the noisy camps and the battle-fields of the army,
Now in secluded hamlets, in towns, and populous cities.
Like a phantom she came, and passed away unremembered.
Fair was she and young, when in hope began the long journey;

Faded was she and old, when in disappointment it ended.
Each succeeding year stole something away from her beauty,
Leaving behind it, broader and deeper, the gloom and the shadow.

Then there appeared and spread faint streaks of gray o'er her forehead,
Dawn of another life, that broke o'er her earthly horizon,
As in the eastern sky the first faint streaks of the morning."

The unfitness, or at any rate the confusion, of the comparison of the signs of earthly woman's decay—grey hairs—with the celestial faint streaks of morn, will strike the critical reader; and we find many other passages of apparent beauty which will not bear the test of strict examination. We "catch the idea," but it will not stand analysis; the flower-bed

looks delightful, but all the flowers will not bear the florist's minute inspection.

"Then it came to pass that a postillion fell on the city,
Pursued by wondrous signs, and mostly by flocks of wild pigeons,
Darkening the sun in their flight, with naught in their claws
but an acorn."

Still *Evangeline's* picture as a Sister of Mercy is a fine bit—

"Thus many years she lived as a Sister of Mercy; frequenting
Lonely and wretched roofs in the crowded lanes of the city,
Where distress and want concealed themselves from the sunlight,

Where disease and sorrow in garrets languished neglected.
Night after night, when the world was asleep, as the watchman repeated

Loud, through the gusty streets, that all was well in the city,
High at some lonely window he saw the light of her taper.
Day after day, in the gray of the dawn, as slow through the suburbs

Plodded the German farmer, with flowers and fruits for the market,
Met he that meek, pale face, returning home from its watchings."

Her visit to the almshouse has some very affecting lines—

"Many a languid head, upraised as *Evangeline* entered,
Turned on its pillow of pain to gaze while she passed, for
her presence
Fell on their hearts like a ray of the sun on the walls of a prison.
And, as she looked around, she saw how Death, the censurer,

Laying his hand upon many a heart, had healed it for ever.
Many familiar forms had disappeared in the night-time;
Vacant their places were, or filled already by strangers."

The finale is most pathetic and admirable. The end of the "constant anguish of patience" is enough to ennoble a poem of ten times less merit and ten times greater length.

Ambition; a Poem, in Four Parts, and other Poems. By H. R. Patenson. Newby.

By *Ambition* the angels fell, and we fear our poet cannot rise by it. We are sorry to damp so justifiable an ardour, but the following quotations, though brief, will speak for us—

"Wake up my muse, pour forth with fervid verse,
The direful ills of fell ambition's curse;
How Alexander, urged by lust of war,
O'er Asia's kingdoms roll'd his conqu'ring car;
Yes, in the might of vast designs he stalk'd,
And o'er his prostrate foe supremely walk'd,
Like some tall tree, who rears its lofty head
Above the ground where stunted bushes spread."

Walking over a prostrate foe like some tall tree settled us before we reached the 60th line; but we add another—

"Go read, ye youth, in whom Ambition burns,
To mount the steps the wheel of Fortune turns,
The living truths historic love conveys.
And man instructed grateful homage pays.
I could extend the theme full many a rhyme,
By drawing morals from remotest time,
By pointing out Ambition's conqu'ring party,
From fierce Cambryses, down to Buonaparte."

RUSSIA.

Life in Russia: or, the Discipline of Despotism. By E. P. Thompson, Esq., Author of the "Note-Book of a Naturalist." Smith, Elder and Co.

THE second branch of the title-page will intimate to readers that this volume takes a dark and unfavourable view of Russia. The writer does not seem to be aware of much that has been published within the last few years upon the Empire, its government, and its people, and, consequently, goes over much familiar ground. Altogether, his work is so sketchy, that we presume the four following examples will satisfy all the criticism it might seek; and as for grave comments on the statements put forth, we should deem them uncalled for by the weight of the authority in question. We therefore content ourselves with the samples attached, which are among the most novel we can discover:—

1. "Very few of the serfs who have succeeded in purchasing their freedom, remain in service; but where such is the case, they assume a self-importance, and exact a deference from, and superiority over, other domestics: it is a caricature of the great national tyranny. I have just witnessed a most

Indiculous instance of it, which I give as an example of the ruling principle in Russian society. The Dvorniks or yard-servants, whose occupations place them in an inferior grade, are treated as subordinates, even by the other servants of the house. One of these men in our establishment had a sister about to be married, and, being anxious to give the utmost éclat to the ceremony, urgently pressed the housemaid to grace it with her presence. Her scruples being at length overcome, (for the lady had considerable pretensions, from having purchased her freedom,) she exacted that he should have a carriage at the door to carry her to the scene of festivity, and that he should not presume to ride with her otherwise than standing behind as a footman! Having had a hair-dresser to arrange her curls and flowers, she was handed into the vehicle with the utmost gallantry and politeness, and the happy Andrew jumped on the footboard, delighted with her condescension."

2. "It is not unusual for the Emperor to stop and address a person in the street; but the luckless individual has little to boast of in so flattering a distinction: in a moment he is arrested, by one of the ubiquitous agents of the police, and charged with the offence of having addressed the Emperor. He is authoritatively required to repeat the substance of what he had said; and a confinement of some days inevitably follows: which the administration of a bribe, or the exertion of some powerful influence, can alone terminate. This occurred to a celebrated French actor, who having been ill, and unable to perform for some time in consequence, was accosted by the Emperor, who inquired after his health, and urged him to resume his theatrical functions as soon as possible. The unfortunate actor was immediately arrested, and had some trouble in getting liberated. The circumstance reached the ears of the Emperor, who, wishing to make him some reparation, desired to know in what manner he could oblige him. 'In nothing, sire,' replied the comedian, 'but that your Majesty will never condescend to speak to me in the street again.'

"These perambulations of the Emperor are often, like those of Haroun al Raschid, attended by singular adventures. I recently witnessed the following incident. Two or three little boys begged of the Emperor as he was passing along; of course without knowing him: he gave them money, but finding he had overlooked one, he desired the lad to follow him: a public droschky driver, however, having whispered to the boy who his leader was, the little urchin fled at his utmost speed. The Emperor ordered a couple of soldiers who were standing near, to fetch the boy back; but the urchin threw himself on the ground, and offered such violent resistance, that they were compelled to carry him by force to the Emperor's presence, who, smiling at the scene, directed them to take him to the palace, where he was probably transferred to one of the military schools.

"I have dwelt somewhat at length on the subject of the police, for, as the regulating power of the Empire, it stamps the whole system of Russian society: indeed, it has been one of the most influential institutions for forming the national character; and it is thus, by examining into the nature of the causes, that we are better able to judge of the effects."

3. "The tastes and refinements of civilised Europe have introduced some innovations, and to some extent revolutionised the national customs; but some few singularities, however, remain: such as the employment of men to make women's dresses, and the combined avocation, elsewhere obsolete, of the barber-surgeon." The estaminets and chemists are particularly under the direction of the police: the latter are restricted in number, and specially licensed; which is notified by an immense spread eagle, the national emblem, carved in wood and affixed over the door. The regulations enforced upon them are severe, and extremely inconvenient to persons who, like myself, may require their little travelling medicine chest to be refurnished. In my own case, I was peremptorily refused, unless I brought a regular prescription signed by a local physician. No law can be more effective for the prevention of the sale

of poisons, nor more beneficial to the faculty, by annihilating all quacks and empirics, and thus compelling the sick to have recourse to the legitimate practitioner. I found a similar regulation in force in Denmark also. Legislation in trifles is one of the great evils of a despotic government, and its jealous interference in all the transactions of life is its leading characteristic. The same love and assumption of the display of power, and of legislating for little things, distinguishes equally a democratic government. The two extremes resemble each other in many other points, but tyranny is the foundation of both."

4. "Serfs, and others of the lowest class, are never employed even in the most subordinate offices, which are filled, for the most part, by retired soldiers, while the highest appointments in the various public offices are in the hands of men in the first rank; but the intermediate grades, and their name is legion, are conferred on an anomalous class, called the Chinovniks. These men are free by birth, and would form, in other countries, a class of gentlemen; but as that distinction is not recognised in Russia, they are, as their name implies, attached to the nobility, among whom they hold the lowest rank. To find employment for this race the public offices are thronged; and, as they have no property, and are miserably paid, they contrive to realise a sufficient income by exacting bribes, or extorting money for services rendered through their interest with their superiors, for whom they, jackal-like, hunt down the game, and share the spoil. It can easily be conceived that they are not over scrupulous, and that they contrive impediments for the purpose of levying a fine for their removal.

"There is another body of individuals connected with trade, called 'Artelchiks,' the singularity of whose avocation and employment deserves a few words. A number of serfs unite themselves into a club or company, termed an Artel, and hire themselves to merchants as messengers and confidential counting-house servants, the Artel holding itself responsible for the character of each individual, and for any loss which may be sustained through him, and forming thus, as it were, a kind of Mutual Honesty Company. As there are no banks through which payments can be made and bills honoured, every merchant is compelled to be his own banker; all money transactions, therefore—which are effected by various denominations of notes, and by hard cash, principally of silver—are onerous, both as regards the trust to be reposed in the bearer, and the weight of the coin to be transferred. This business devolves entirely on the Artelchik, who counts the coin into bags, and arranges the notes into parcels according to their value, marking the envelopes with his initials in proof of their correctness. This account is received by the merchant without any further check or examination, and the sums are repaid away in the same state without fear or hesitation. These men are poor, and their pay is slight, considering the nature of their employment and the temptations to which they are exposed; and yet a defalcation, or a betrayal of trust, is rarely known."

There are some pretty embellishments.

EAST INDIAN WARFARE.

Narrative of Services in Beloochistan and Afghanistan, in 1840-1-2. By Col. L. R. Stacy, C.B. 8vo. Allen and Co.

COL. STACY has performed distinguished services, which he thinks have not been sufficiently acknowledged, appreciated, or rewarded; and this volume sets them forth, and assigns the causes to which he ascribes the injustice done him. We are not competent judges of military merits, nor are we well enough acquainted with official etiquette in measuring out promotions and honours, to be able to offer an opinion upon these questions; though we do know, in regard to the latter, that it often interferes to bestow rank on mere station, and neglect the deserts of those lower in command, by whom the achievements have been actually performed. An officer may be detached on a most difficult enterprise, and

accomplish it by his talent and bravery, to the great benefit of his country; but, at the same time, the glory must be attributed to some chief, perhaps five hundred miles from the scene of action, and Official Etiquette robs the real victor of the ribbons or stars for which he has risked his life with prodigal patriotism. Whether aught of this has occurred in the present case, we know not, but Col. Stacy feels exceedingly sore with the niggard notice which he alleges has been meted out to his services.

The earliest of these stated in the volume before us, relate to troublesome negotiations, the issue of which was the seating upon the throne of Kelat the young Khan Meer Mahomed Nasseer, a staunch friend to the English during the disasters of Cabool.

Upon this he says—"In the hour of our supposed adversity, (to use the words of Lord Ellenborough, the Governor-general of India,) 'the Court, and chiefs of Kelat remained firm in their allegiance'; and although Beloochistan had, for eighteen months before, inspired the Indian government with anxiety, if not with alarm; at a time when the whole of Afghanistan was in arms against us, animated by a contagious spirit of enthusiasm, to which a British army appeared to have fallen a sacrifice, the country beyond the Bolan Pass, inhabited by restless and barbarous tribes, had been soothed into unwonted tranquillity. It was, I believe, generally admitted that, if I had not succeeded in bringing in the Khan of Kelat, and conciliated the Brahooe and Belooche sirdars, not a man of our army above the passes would have returned to India."

Colonel Stacy was then specially employed in the march to Candahar, 1842, and he asserts that General England, by neglecting the advice his experience of the passes, &c., enabled him to suggest, exposed himself to the dangerous reverse at Hykulzye, (p. 300); and that General Nott failed to report the successful acts of the officers under him, in the terms of approbation and eulogy which they had justly earned. The colonel recites some of his prominent exploits at Candahar, Cabool, Peshawar, and on the return to India, (in the command of the 2nd brigade.) He says—

"On the march of the British forces from Cabool to Peshawar, various attempts were made by the mountain tribes to impede their progress through the tremendous defiles. During this most painful and difficult march, my brigade was every day in the rear (the most arduous position, as even non-military men must know, in a retiring army), and in the Jugdulluk Pass, which has acquired a fatal celebrity, the second brigade, which I commanded, is entitled to almost the entire honour of having saved, by my arrangements, many lives, besides a large portion of the baggage and commissariat supplies, together with the Somnath Gates, a very precious, but a most cumbersome and embarrassing charge, and which nearly fell into the hands of the enemy. In the march from Lundee Khana to Allee Musjid, the most dangerous and critical of all, owing to the desperate determination of the enemy, who saw their expected prey escaping them, and were elated by their success the evening before over a portion of Major-General McCaskill's force, I was specially ordered by General Nott to take charge of the baggage, guns, gates, &c. My dispositions kept the enemy in check, and brought the long and heterogeneous train of baggage, supplies, artillery, and gates, together with the troops I had in charge, unharméd into Allee Musjid; and in the onward march from thence to Jumrood, the Narrative will show that my resources were again most severely taxed to provide against the assaults of the Kyberries. On one occasion I was obliged to act, though junior brigadier, upon my own responsibility. It is always difficult, and sometimes presumptuous, to predict what would have happened if certain measures had not been taken; but I am justified in affirming that, if I had not, upon that occasion, strengthened the pickets and rear-guard with two regiments of my own brigade, the enemy might have cut in upon the gates, baggage, and godowns; and inflicted upon us a severe loss of reputation as well as of property. I

assert this with the more confidence, because it was generally acknowledged in the force that, but for the second brigade, the Somnath Gates and the greater part of the baggage would have been lost (besides the disgrace of a reverse) in the Jugdulluk Pass, in that of Lundee Khana, and near Allee Musjid. At Jugdulluk we had no orders, yet that affair has never been mentioned in any public dispatch."

Upon this he continues to observe—

"None of these transactions, indeed, have found any but a very penurious record in the official reports of General Nott. It is mortifying to the officers employed in Sir William Nott's army to observe the extraordinary contrast between his official reports and those of Sir George Pollock; the latter full, complete, excluding no action or name from notice that had the smallest pretension to such a distinction; the former brief, meagre, defective, and parsimonious. This contrast is not, however, a source of mortification merely, but of injury, inasmuch as it necessarily led to an incorrect estimate of the relative merits and services of the two divisions of the force, and, by an inevitable consequence, to an unequal distribution of those honours and distinctions which are the legitimate and much-coveted reward of military services. The disproportion of the distinctions conferred upon the officers of the two armies is enormous, being, perhaps, ten to one in favour of Sir George Pollock's."

"When the distribution of honours to the Candahar force was promulgated, conceiving myself (as well as other officers of the second brigade, who had been entirely overlooked) to be unfairly treated,—having had the hardest work; having been taken several times out of my roster of duty, marching my brigade every day in the rear from Cabool to Jumrood,—I first addressed myself to Sir William Nott, calling upon him to see me righted. In his answer, he congratulated me upon my having received the Companionship of the Bath, (for which I am most grateful), and declared that he made his reports of actions and officers according to the best of his judgment, and could not interfere with the arrangements of Government in the distribution of honours. It seems difficult to understand how, if Sir William did not interfere,—that is, did not recommend and point out the respective claims of his officers,—he discharged his debt of justice towards those who had so heartily co-operated with him and assisted him to win the high distinctions he received."

Appeals to Lord Ellenborough and the Court of Directors were equally ineffectual, and Colonel Stacy has been disappointed of the rewards to which he considers himself entitled; and unquestionably, his conduct upon all occasions, and finally at Sobraon, where, on the fall of the lamented Major-General Dick, he came into the command of the division which so gallantly assailed the Sikh intrenchments, received the warm applause of his superiors.

In respect to the operations themselves, there is, of course, no new light thrown upon general affairs; but there are many details of incidental passages at arms, which are curious enough, but of which one example may suffice—

"Two horse-artillery guns were brought into action by the enemy, and admirably served: one was, however, knocked off its carriage by a shot from one of our guns early in the action; the other limbered up, and made off at a tearing pace, when the line broke. Christie's horse had charged the runaways to the right; on their return, hearing that the gun had been taken off, Captain Christie immediately pursued, with Lieutenant Chamberlain and two russalabs of his regiment, resolved to capture it. They soon discovered the tracks of the wheels, and pushing on at a good rate, saw, as they turned the corner of a hill, the gun and a body of cavalry escorting it. A shout gave the enemy notice of the proximity of our party; their cavalry set off at speed, and the drivers of the gun urged the horses to their utmost, but they soon flagged. Our men came up steadily, hand over hand, the drivers of the gun still exerting themselves to carry it off. Lieutenant Chamberlain's first blow knocked off the driver of the near wheel horse; the traces of the leaders were cut, and the gun was cap-

tured. The man observed to be most active in taking off this gun, who rode the near wheeler, proved to be a drummer of the 27th regiment of native infantry, who had gone over to the enemy: he was sabred. With the aid of some rope, the harness was repaired; Captain Anderson slung the dismounted gun under one of his waggons, burning the carriage, and the captured gun and four of the gun horses were brought into camp. The guns and carriages were ordered to be destroyed, and the horses and harness were sold by auction."

With this we conclude Colonel Stacy's complaints, and hope, if he has not had justice done to him, a public notice, though late, may quicken the measure, for of his gallantry throughout a long career, there is abundant proof.

AGE OF ELIZABETH.

The Romance of the Peerage; or, Curiosities of Family History. By G. L. Craik. Vol. I. Chapman and Hall.

THE frame-work of this publication is new and rather curious. It consists of romances and tragedies in real life, partly belonging to history and partly to the family biographers of persons of rank enough to have been eminent in their times. Much literary and antiquarian research brings them out from the general mass; and Mr. Craik has linked them together by a sort of genealogical chain, which, though somewhat cumbrous, yet gives the whole a connexion and unity not devoid of public interest.

The volume before us takes Lettice Knollys, the cousin of Queen Elizabeth, as its head, and through her marriages and descendants the stream of glory flows through the Devereuxes and house of Essex, the Earl of Leicester and Amy Robsart, Sir Philip Sidney, Lady Rich, Sir Christopher Blount, Earl of Warwick, Earl of Holland, Earl of Somerset, Lady Frances Howard, Lady Ann Carr, Frances Walsingham, and other personages of note, and strange indeed are the circumstances thus related. Of the execution of his plan, Mr. Craik says—

"It will not be expected that every statement in a work of this nature should have received what may be called an original investigation. In general, the writer must be indebted for his materials to researches of a much more laborious and extended kind than he can himself undertake. The several cases cannot be got up as Peerage Cases are got up for the House of Lords by the labours upon each, perhaps for years, of a staff of lawyers and agents. The writer cannot, for example, go hunting out missing dates and other minutiae among parish registers and tombstones. Neither can he, in most instances, pursue the story very far among unpublished documents of any kind, or even run after all its scattered particulars over the world of miscellaneous literature. In this first volume, although, as will be seen, information has been sought for in a good many quarters, and upon portions of the principal narrative more particulars, perhaps, have been accumulated than some readers will think necessary, much, no doubt, has been overlooked, and plenty of gleanings left for any one who may think it worth his while to follow me over the same field."

"The volume, nevertheless, contains rectifications and enlargements of the received accounts of several of the persons of historical celebrity who figure in it, and also a number of things which now appear in print for the first time. As coming under the former head, I may refer to the elucidation of the principal poetical work and the most remarkable passage in the life of Sir Philip Sidney,—to the additional facts collected respecting Charles Blount Lord Montjoy,—and to the hitherto unnoticed traces of Sir Christopher Blount, found in the Burghley papers. The matter, wholly new, comprises many Letters of the old Countess of Leicester, her daughter, the famous Lady Rich, and Lord Rich;—Montjoy's own account of his connexion with Lady Rich;—extracts from unpublished Letters of Chamberlain and other newswriters;—the first correct statement that has been given, as far as I am aware, of the celebrated Foljambe's case, constantly cited, though, as it turns

out, without any grounds, as having settled an important point in the English Law of Marriage and Divorce;—and the highly curious Letters relating to the death of Amy Robsart, the heroine of Scott's *Kenilworth*."

We copy the letters here alluded to from the Appendix No. 1, where we read as follows:

"Since the note on page 56 was printed off, I have been kindly permitted to make further search among the Manuscripts in the Pepysian Library, and have been fortunate enough to discover what there can be no doubt is the document that has been described as an account of the Coroner's Inquest held upon the Lady Robert Dudley. It is, in fact, a copy of a correspondence between Dudley and an agent of his at Cumnor while the Inquest was going on. There are five Letters; three from Dudley, and two from the other party. Such a correspondence may claim to be regarded as something much more curious and important than even the depositions taken at the Inquest, which, if we had them, would in all likelihood tell us little or nothing more than is to be gathered from the Letters, or from the local traditions which Ashmole has collected and preserved. The finding of the Jury no doubt was that the death had happened by mischance. But here we have Dudley himself and his own words, which, even if they should have been designed to blind us in regard to some other things, at least throw the clearest light upon the relations in which he and his unfortunate wife stood to one another at the time of the catastrophe. It is evident, from the whole tenor of his letters, that all affection on his side had for some time ceased; and there are indications of this alienation having been a source to her of deep suffering. Writing, with whatever present or ultimate purpose, to a person in his confidence, and who must be supposed to have been aware of the real state of the case in that respect, he affects no lamentation for the loss he has sustained. He professes to be surprised at the news of his wife's death, and to be shocked at the thought of her having possibly been murdered, and he is especially alarmed by the apprehension that he may be suspected to have been himself the main author of the crime; that is all. That his position, if not his character or reputation, was such as to make such a notion one very likely to be taken up by the world, we have now the frankest acknowledgment under his own hand. The correspondence also adds something to the little previously known in regard to the sort of person that Amy Robsart really was, and upon that point confirms the only other evidence we possess, the solitary fragment that remains of her own letter writing."

"The copy of the present Letters which is preserved in the Pepysian Library, was probably made soon after the originals had been written, and perhaps by Dudley's own direction. It appears to have been one of certain papers which had originally belonged to him, and which were obtained by Pepys from his friend Evelyn. In his Diary, under date of 24th November, 1665, Pepys records a visit he had paid to Evelyn, when the latter showed him 'several letters of the old Lord of Leicester's in Queen Elizabeth's time, under the very hand-writing of Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary, Queen of Scots, and others, very venerable names.' Some of these old papers he appears to have afterwards borrowed of Evelyn. The latter writes to him on the 8th of December 1681:—'These papers, maps, letters, books, and particulars, when you have done with, be pleased to take your own time in returning; and one of the entries in a catalogue or list appended to the copy that Evelyn had preserved of the letter is; 'The Earl of Leicester's Will. Another packet of Letters and other matters, and transactions of state relating to the late times, in number 88.' (*Memoirs*, II., 217—219.) On the margin, however, Evelyn had afterwards noted:—'Which I afterwards never asked of him; and Pepys appears to have ultimately come to look upon the papers as his own. They probably form the bulk of the contents of three large folio volumes now in the Pepysian Library, lettered on the back PAPERS OF STATE. The present Letters are in Vol. II., pp. 709—711."

"1. *Lord Robert Dudley to T. Blount.*

"Cousin Blount, Immediately upon your departing from me, there came to me Bowes, by whom I do understand that my wife is dead, and, as he saith, by a fall from a pair of stairs. Little other understanding can I have of him. The greatness and the suddenness of the misfortune doth so perplex me, until I do hear from you how the matter standeth, or how this evil should light upon me, considering what the malicious world will bruit, as I can take no rest. And, because I have no way to purge myself of the malicious talk that I know the wicked world will use, but one, which is, the very plain truth to be known, I do pray you, as you have loved me, and do tender me and my quietness, and as now my special trust is in you, that [you] will use all the devices and means you can possible for the learning of the truth; wherein have no respect to any living person. And, as by your own travail and diligence, so likewise by order of law; I mean, by calling of the Coroner, and charging him to the uttermost from me to have good regard to make choice of no light or slight persons, but the discreetest and [most] substantial men, for the juries, such as for their knowledge may be able to search thoroughly and duly, by all manner of examinations, the bottom of the matter, and for their uprightness will earnestly and sincerely deal therein without respect; and that the body be viewed and searched accordingly by them; and in every respect to proceed by order and law. In the mean time, Cousin Blount, let me be advertised from you by this bearer with all speed how the matter doth stand. For, as the cause and the manner thereof doth marvellously trouble me, considering my case, many ways, so shall I not be at rest till I may be ascertained thereof; praying you, even as my trust is in you, and as I have ever loved you, do not dissemble with me, neither let anything be hid from me, but send me your true conceit and opinion of the matter whether it happened by evil chance or by villany. And fail not to let me hear continually from you. And thus fare you well, in much haste; from Windsor, this ixth of September in the evening. Your loving friend and kinsman, much perplexed, R. D.

"I have sent for my brother Appleyard, because he is her brother, and other of her friends also to be there, that they may be privy and see how all things do proceed."

"2. *T. Blount to Lord Robert Dudley.*

"May it please your Lordship to understand that I have received your letter by Bristol, the contents whereof I do well perceive; and that your Lordship was advertised by Bowes upon my departing that my Lady was dead; and also your strait charge given unto me that I should use all the devices and policies that I can for the true understanding of the matter, as well by mine own travail as by the order of law, as in calling the Coroner, giving him charge that he choose a discreet and substantial jury for the view of the body, and that no corruption should be used or person respected. Your Lordship's great reasons, that maketh you so earnestly search to learn the truth, the same, with your earnest commandment, doth make me to do my best therein. The present advertisement I can give to your Lordship at this time is, too true it is that my Lady is dead, and, as it seemeth, with a fall; but yet how or which way I cannot learn. Your Lordship shall hear the manner of my proceeding since I came from you. The same night I came from Windsor I lay at Abingdon all that night; and, because I was desirous to hear what news went abroad in the country, at my supper I called for mine host, and asked him what news was thereabout, taking upon me I was going into Gloucestershire. He said, there was fallen a great misfortune within three or four miles of the town; he said, my Lord Robert Dudley's wife was dead; and I axed how; and he said, by a misfortune, as he heard, by a fall from a pair of stairs. I asked him by what chance; he said, he knew not. I axed him what was his judgment and the judgment of the people; he said, some were disposed to say well and some evil. What is your judgment? said I. By my troth, said

he, I judge it a misfortune, because it chanced in that honest gentleman's house; his great honesty, said he, doth much cut (?) the evil thoughts of the people. My think, said I, that some of her people that waited upon her should somewhat say to this. No, Sir, said he, but little; for it was said that they were all here at the fair, and none left with her. How might that chance? said I. Then said he, it is said how that she rose that day very early, and commanded all her sort to go [to] the fair, and would suffer none to tarry at home; and thereof is much judged. And truly, my Lord, I did first learn of Bowes, as I met with him coming towards your Lordship, of his own being that day, and of all the rest of their being, who affirmed that she would not that day suffer one of her own sort to tarry at home, and was so earnest to have them gone to the fair, that with any of her own sort that made reason of tarrying at home she was very angry, and came to Mrs. Odinstells (?), the widow that liveth with Anthony Forster, who refused that day to go to the fair, and was very angry with her also, because she said it was no day for gentlewomen to go in, but said the morrow was much better, and then she would go. Whereunto my Lady answered and said that she might choose and go at her pleasure, but all hers should go; and was very angry. They asked who should keep her company if all they went. She said Mrs. Owen should keep her company at dinner. The same tale doth Pirtio (?), who doth dearly love her, confirm. Certainly, my Lord, as little while as I have been here, I have heard divers tales of her that maketh me judge her to be a strange woman of mind. In asking of Pirtio what she might think of this matter, either chance or villany, she said, by her faith she doth judge very chance, and neither done by man nor by herself. For herself, she said, she was a good virtuous gentlewoman, and daily would pray upon her knees; and divers times she saith that she hath heard her pray to God to deliver her from desperation. Then, said I, she might have an evil toy (?) in her mind. No, good Mr. Blount, said Pirtio, do not judge so of my words; if you should so gather, I am sorry I said so much. My Lord, it is most strange that this chance should fall upon you. It passeth the judgment of any man to say how it is; but truly the tales I do hear of her maketh me to think she had a strange mind in her; as I will tell you at my coming.

"But to the inquest you would have so very circumspectly chosen by the Coroner for the understanding of the troth, your Lordship needeth not to doubt of their well choosing. Before my coming the most were chosen, and part of them at the house. If I be able to judge of men and of their ableness, I judge them, and especially some of them, to be as wise and as able men to be chosen upon such a matter as any men, being but country men, as ever I saw, and as well able to answer to their doing before whosoever they shall be called. And for their true search, without respect of person, I have done your message unto them. I have good hope they will conceal no fault, if any be; for, as they are wise, so are they, as I hear, part of them, very enemies to Anthony Forster. God give them, with their wisdom, indifference, and then be they well chosen men. More advertisement at this time I cannot give your Lordship; but as I can learn so will I advertise, wishing your Lordship to put away sorrow, and rejoice, whatsoever fall out, of your own innocency; by the which, in time, doubt not but that malicious reports shall turn upon their backs that can be glad to wish or say against you. And thus I humbly take my leave; from Conner, the xith of September. Your Lordship's, life and living, T. B.

"Your Lordship hath done very well in sending for Mr. Appleyard."

"3. *Lord Robert Dudley to T. Blount.*

"Cousin Blount, Until I hear from you again how the matter falleth out in very troth, I cannot be in quiet; and yet you do well satisfy me with the discreet jury you say are chosen already; unto whom I pray you say from me, that I require them, as ever

I shall think good of them, that they will, according to their duties, earnestly, carefully, and truly deal in this matter, and find it as they shall see it fall out; and, if it fall out a chance or misfortune, then so to say; and, if it appear a villany (as God forbid so mischievous or wicked body should live), then to find it so. And, God willing, I have never fear [of] the due prosecution accordingly, what person soever it may appear any way to touch; as well for the just punishment of the act as for mine own true justification; for, as I would be sorry in my heart any such evil should be committed, so shall it well appear to the world my innocency by my dealing in the matter, if it shall so fall out. And therefore, Cousin Blount, I seek chiefly troth in this case, which I pray you still to have regard unto, without any favour to be showed either one way or other. When you have done my message to them, I require you not to stay to search thoroughly yourself all ways that I may be satisfied. And that with such convenient speed as you may. Thus fare you well, in haste; at Kew, this xliith of September. Yours assured, R. D."

"4. *T. Blount to Lord Robert Dudley.*

"I have done your Lordship's message unto the jury. You need not to bid them to be careful: whether equity of the cause or malice to Forster do forbid (?) it, I know not; they take great pains to learn the troth. To morrow I will wait upon your Lordship; and, as I come, I will break my fast at Abingdon; and there I shall meet with one or two of the jury, and what I can I will bring. They be very secret; and yet do I hear a whispering that they can find no presumptions of evil. And, if I may say to your Lordship my conscience, I think some of them be sorry for it, God forgive me. And, if I judge aright, mine own opinion is much quieted; the more I search of it, the more free it doth appear unto me. I have almost nothing that can make me so much to think that any man should be the doer thereof, as, when I think your Lordship's wife before all other women should have such a chance, the circumstances and as many things as I can learn doth persuade me that only misfortune hath done it, and nothing else. Myself will wait upon your Lordship to-morrow, and say what I know. In the mean time I humbly take leave; from Conner, the xliith of September. Your Lordship's life and loving (?), T. B."

"5. *Lord Robert Dudley to T. Blount.*

"I have received a letter from one Smith, one that seemeth to be foreman of the jury. I perceive by his letters that he and the rest have and do travail very diligently and circumspectly for the trial of the matter which they have charge of, and, for anything that he or they by any search or examination can make in the world hitherto, it doth plainly appear, he saith, a very misfortune; which, for mine own part, Cousin Blount, doth much satisfy and quiet me. Nevertheless, because of my thorough quietness, and all other's hereafter, my desire is that they may continue in their inquiry and examination to the uttermost, as long as they lawfully may; yea, and when these have given their verdict, though it be never so plainly found, assuredly I do wish that another substantial company of honest men might try again for the more knowledge of troth. I have also requested to Sir Richard Blount, who is a perfect honest gentleman, to help to the furtherance thereof. I trust he be with you or thing long, with Mr. Norris likewise. Appleyard, I hear hath been there, as I appointed, and Arthur Robsert, her brothers. If any more of her friends had been to be had, I would also have caused them to have seen and been privy to all the dealing there. Well, Cousin, God's will be done; and I wish he had made me the poorest that creepeth on the ground, so this mischance had not happened to me. But, good Cousin, according to my trust have care about all things, that there be plain, sincere, and direct dealing for the full trial of this matter. Touching Smith and the rest, I mean no more to deal with them, but let them proceed in the name of God accordingly; and I am right glad they be all

strangers to me. Thus fare you well, in much haste; from Windsor. Your loving friend and kinsman,

"R. D."

There is much interesting matter throughout the volume, and we dare promise that its four or five successors will be equally acceptable to the public.

The Doctor, &c. By the late Robert Southey. Edited by his Son-in-Law, J. Wood Warter, B.D. Complete in one volume. Longmans.

To have all the playfulness, all the humour, all the curious reading, all the learning, all the sound principles, all the morality, and all the religious instruction contained in the numerous popular volumes of *The Doctor*, comprehended in One, is we consider a public benefit. It is a, and not a little, library. Dip where you will, there is amusement and information; the difficulty is to tear yourself away from the dipping, without devoting more time to the enjoyment than you intended to spare or can well afford. To every division as it issued from the press, the *Literary Gazette* paid its justly due literary homage, and therefore we need do nothing more now than perform our most respectful koutou to the enthroned Whole. This we do with great satisfaction, thank the editor for the few additional notes his taste and acquaintance with books have led him to introduce, and, in conclusion, notice the engraved bust of the author, with which and *L'Envoi* the work is closed. The last, however, is so pertinent to the matter, we have a pleasure in transcribing it for the gratification of our readers:—

"Gentle Reader—for if thou art fond of such works as these, thou art like to be the Gentleman and the Scholar—I take upon me to advertise thee that the Printer of *THE DOCTOR, &c.*, is William Nicol, of the Shakespeare Press—the long-tried Friend of the lamented Southey, and of their mutual Friend, the late Grosvenor Bedford, of Her Majesty's Exchequer:

"Fellices anime, et quales neque candidiores
Terra tulit!"

"The Sonnet following, Gentle Reader, I do thee to wit, is the composition of the above kind-hearted and benevolent William Nicol—and I wish it to be printed, because on Grosvenor Bedford's short visit to Southey in 1836, he expressed himself much pleased with it. May be, if thou art fond of the gentle craft, it may please thee too, and so I wish thee heartily farewell!

"Who wrote *THE DOCTOR*? Who's the scribe unknown?—

Time may discover, when the grave has closed
Its earthy jaws o'er us, who now are posed
To father that which grew, her laurels own;
Learning diffused, quaint humour, lively wit,
Satire severe and bold, or covert, sly,
Turning within itself the mental eye
To fancies strange that round its orbit flit,
Unknown to others, and by self scarce seen;
Teaching, in sweetest English, England's plan—
When England was herself, her laurels green—
Honour to God and charity to man:
Who wrote the *Doctor*? her best Son, I ween,
Whether his works, or his fair life you scan."

The Analytical Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon: consisting of an Alphabetical Arrangement of every Word and Inflection contained in the Old Testament Scriptures, precisely as they occur in the Sacred Text, with a Grammatical Analysis of each Word, and Lexicographical Illustration of the Meanings. A complete Series of Hebrew and Chaldee Paradigms, with Grammatical Remarks and Explanations. Bagster and Son.

We have copied this title-page verbatim, because it fully explains the nature of a volume which does equal credit to the learning of Mr. B. Davidson and to the enterprise of Messrs. Bagster. To dilate on the expediency, or rather the necessity, for as correct a knowledge as can be attained of the Hebrew language, to the theological student, the minister of the gospel, the general philologist, and the civilian adorned with classic literature, would be a sheer waste of words and time. The *Analyses* appear to us to comprehend every possible interpretation, and to fill up the entire measure left incomplete by the *Tables of Paradigms*; so that, in fact, as perfect an understanding of the Hebrew tongue as can be acquired comes within the compass of this important volume. It may be added, that it results from the

nature of its plan that a very ample Biblical Concordance is wrought out; and it may be curious to remark, that by this means, and the preparation of the lexicographical part, the theological errors of Gesenius are pointed out, and the sounder radical definitions of Professor Lee substituted in their place. Altogether, *Bagster's Analytical Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon* reminds us of the better times of standard publishing, and is a work which every scholar, in the true sense of the title, must desire to have in his possession.

Prison Discipline, and the Advantages of the Separate System of Imprisonment, with a detailed Account of the System in Reading Gaol. By the Rev. J. Field, M.A., Chaplain. 2 vols. 8vo. London: Longmans. Reading: Welch.

MR. FIELD is the great apostle of the Separate System of Prison Discipline, and has collected together as much as diligence and zeal could gather in support of his theory. The experience of the Reading Gaol is set forth as unanswerable evidence of its remedial efficacy. To us it appears that much may be said on the other side, but the controversy is too wide for us to discuss on this occasion, and therefore we will simply state that the advocates for this method of punishing and reclaiming their errant fellow-creatures will find as much as can be urged in its favour brought forward by Mr. Field.

The History of British India. By H. H. Wilson, M.A., F.R.S., &c. Vol. III. Madden.

THIS third volume of Professor Wilson is the ninth of Mr. Mills, and continues the History of British India to the year 1833. The ten years to which it relates are of great importance; but so many events of greater importance preceded and have followed them, that we do not feel so intense an interest even in this stirring epoch as we should probably have done had we read the particulars ten years ago. Mighty and wonderful circumstances beat old Time himself as *Edaces rerum*; yet will Professor Wilson's luminous and impartial narrative be always an essential portion of Indian History, without which neither antecedents nor succedents can be understood.

On Polarized Light. By Charles Woodward, F.R.S. pp. 40. Van Voorst.

Photogenic Manipulation. By Robert J. Bingham, pp. 55. Knight and Sons.

The Earth and the Heavens Displayed. Cradock and Co.

THE first and last are respectively familiar introductions to the study of polarized light, and to the sciences of astronomy, geology, and mineralogy; and the second, plain instructions in the art of photography. They belong to a numerous family, classed in relation to their object—though but slightly connected in subject, or little similar in mode of treatment. They ordinarily call for announcement only; they advance in public favour according to their being found useful, (that on Photogenic Manipulation has already reached several editions.) But Mr. Woodward's work is of a higher stamp than the generality; it is not a mere compilation, as many are, but it evidences also the results of experience, and is an able exposition of practical thought.

Change for a Shilling. By Horace Mayhew. Bogue.

A FAIRLY amusing sample of that abundant class of publication, which loads every steamboat, stall, and railway station, at prices from penny pieces to shillings; and the best of which, we fear, are not calculated to advance our literature. *Dispersere in loco* is pleasant enough, but there may be too much of it; and every month lets loose such a frivolous and tiresomely funny a rabble, that even the otherwise relishable is smothered amid the load of trash. By the by, it is a new feature in the publishing business, to see works of the superior class advertised to be sold, not only by "The Trade," but by the book-stall occupants at wharfs and stations.

Exact Philosophy. By Hughes Fraser Halle, P. LL.D. 8vo. Pp. 212. Wilson.

THIS is about the hardest nut we ever tried to crack. Whether it is that we lack the needful ability to reason, or that we cannot get into a mood to fix our mind

sufficiently on the subject matters, or that some unknown cause prevents us, we must, to our critical shame, confess that we cannot follow or understand the author in his manifold turnings and twistings of philosophy; his definitions, logic, criteria, laws, problems, hypotheses, syntheses, pytheses, theories, inductions, demonstrations, and conclusions. We must therefore consign the volume, undescribed, to the very cleverest of our readers, especially cautioning those of the fair sex not to attempt it.

The Life of Jesus Christ, &c. By Augustus Neander. Translated from the 4th German Edition by J. McClinton and C. F. Blumenthal. 8vo. Pp. 450. Low.

A PREFACE by a Clergyman of the Church of England introduces this new edition of a well-known and celebrated work. Dreading the propagation of German scepticism and infidelity, through translations of Strauss and others, the writer upholds Neander as an antidote, although forced to confess the strangeness of much of his matter, and the occurrence of much which is calculated to give pain to, we might add shock, the sober English reader and Christian.

Ireland and the Channel Islands; a Remedy for Ireland. By C. Le Queene, Esq. 8vo. pp. 138. Longmans.

AMONG all the nostrums which have been offered for the benefit of Ireland, M. Le Queene certainly proposes a novelty—viz., the transfer of the laws and customs of the peaceful Channel Islands to that distracted country. He defines and describes these; and it seems to us, that if some of them, at least, could be introduced into the Emerald Isle, they might contribute to render it more like Guernsey and Jersey. Humphrey Brown, Esq., M.P., in a pamphlet (Chas. Barnett) insists on loans and the extension of railroads as an effectual government system for the regeneration of the country; and "an Englishman" puts in *An Earnest Plea* (Ollivier) for well-directed emigration, and a just mutual arrangement between landlords and tenants.

1. *Select Letters of Columbus. 2. Raleigh's Discovery of Guiana.*

Two most appropriate and interesting volumes, published by the Hakluyt Society. The former is enriched by some hitherto unpublished letters; and the latter ably edited by Sir R. H. Schomburgk, with original additions relative to Guiana, a well-written memoir, and excellent annotations. Sir Robert's personal experience admirably fitted him for this task. *Tales of Kirkbeck.* Pp. 210. Cleaver.

The Voice of Many Waters. By Mr. David Osborne. Pp. 183. Wilson.

Essays on Human Happiness. By H. Duhring. Pp. 187. Longmans.

Memoranda of 1846-7. By the Rev. W. Fowle, M.A. Longmans.

THERE are so many small books now, that it is difficult to deal with them, however briefly, so as to give readers an idea of what the press is doing.

The first of the above consists of village tales in humble life, leaning to Romanism. The second touches on many subjects instructive to children; and is embellished by Messrs. Cooper. The third contends for horticulture as the sweetest earthly adjunct to human happiness; and the last is a father's lessons to his sons at school, inculcating religious principles and conduct by arguments deduced from public events within the last two years.

The Morning and Evening Services of the Book of Common Prayer, explained for the use of Children and National Schools. 12mo. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

A VERY useful analysis of the best books on the subject. The object of the present tract is to render the church service more intelligible and interesting to children; but we suspect it will afford information to many of larger growth. For our own parts, we confess our disbelief in any argumentative system which shall rivet the attention of youth to our long morning service; and have heard clergymen of eminent piety and judgment regret the length of our public prayers. We, of course, express no opinion on the subject, theology not being within

our jurisdiction; but we can assure our readers that the publication will lessen the objection, if this well written and careful compendium be advantageously applied to educational purposes.

London, its Danger and its Safety, &c. By E. E. Antrobus, F.S.A. Staunton and Sons.

MR. ANTROBUS takes a general view of the overthrow of the social system on the Continent; alludes to the peril of confusion which England has escaped; states the amount and distribution of the police force, (5500 men within the circle of fifteen miles round Charing Cross;) and recommends an addition to that body as the best means for the present and future protection of all classes in the capital.

What has Religion to do with Politics? By D. R. Morier, Esq. Pp. 143. Parker.

STATES and individuals must observe the Christian rule, by which alone they can attain prosperity here and happiness hereafter. Such is the principle laid down and contended for in this little book.

The Master and his Servants. An Allegory. By the Rev. W. H. Ridley. Edwards and Hughes. This is rather a strange, well-intentioned composition, but we are not convinced that instruction is best conveyed in so visionary a form. The sentiments, however, and the religious feelings inculcated, are moral and pure.

The Combatants. An Allegory. By the Rev. E. Monro. Pp. 89. Masters.

ANOTHER religious allegory, of a similar nature to the preceding.

Les Jeunes Narrateurs. Par Marin de la Voye.

A PRETTY little volume of moral tales in French, (much needed to counteract the masses of immorality in the same tongue,) and well constructed for the instruction of young beginners.

Latin Grammar Practice. By the Rev. J. Pycroft, B.A. Longmans.

A new edition of a useful guide, containing a fair vocabulary of Cæsar, good construing lessons, and equally good, though easy, English exercises.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

APPARENT DEATH.

The observations and experiments of M. Bouchat have led him to this result—that all cases of asphyxia and syncope, whatever may be the diversity of the symptoms, present a common character, namely, the persistence of the beatings of the heart, which distinguishes them from real death. He has established, that in syncope the most complete—feeling, motion gone, and the body cold—the contractions of the heart are not entirely suspended, but only greatly diminished in frequency and force; and further, that, like asphyxia, and syncope apoplexy, coma epileptic or hysteric, poisonings by narcotics, or by the diffusible poisons, alcohol, ether, chloroform, prussic acid, &c., and congelation, under all their forms and degrees; in fine, all maladies which have been cited as examples of apparent death, may be distinguished from real death by the persistence of the beatings of the heart, either by immediate auscultation or by aid of the stethoscope.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

June 20th.—Mr. J. Field, President, in the chair. The paper read "On Harbours of Refuge," by the Earl of Lovelace, consisted chiefly in a succinct review of the Reports of the Commissioners on Shipwrecks and on Harbours of Refuge, giving the opinions of the naval officers and civil engineers on the necessity for harbours in certain situations, the naval qualities possessed by those positions, and the possibility of constructing harbours in them, and the nature of the structures. The necessity for harbours on our coasts, capable of sheltering fleets from storms in peace and from the enemy during war, appeared to be admitted, particularly at the present moment, when the disturbed state of the Continent and the restless character of our near neighbours were considered. It was stated, that of various situations pointed out, that of Dover was the only one yet decided upon,

although great works are contemplated at Portland, where, from Mr. Rendel's designs, a system of construction could be adopted which would be both economical and stable, and at the same time would afford employment to a class of persons whose labour it had been difficult hitherto to use efficiently.

The various projects of floating breakwaters and other artificial shelter for vessels were then examined, and were generally condemned, as entirely inefficient for the objects proposed.

The questions relative to the movement of sand, the drifting of the shingle, and the deposit of silt in the Dover Bay and other places, were treated at great length, and reasons given for the various forms of construction, and of the projects for meeting the difficulties induced by these circumstances.

The next question was the plan of the harbour and the mode of construction of the works. After quoting all the authorities on both sides, including the naval officers, the commissioners, the civil engineers, and the scientific writers, the preference was given to a large harbour with two entrances, so placed as to allow a sufficient run of the tide through it, to prevent any very considerable deposit of silt, but so constructed as to afford shelter to the vessels within. The pier walls enclosing the harbour to be built vertically up from the bottom, or with a very slight inclination in their height, instead of throwing in masses of rubble stone to find its own angle of repose, which it was shown was not less than four or five to one, and that it only attained solidity after a lapse of many years, even with a due admixture of small materials to fill up the interstices, and after constant supplies of stone to replace that which the seas removed. The reports of Captain Warrington were quoted to prove the failures that had occurred at certain harbours in Ireland, where it was stated that the long slopes had been destroyed by the sea, and had ruined the harbours they were intended to protect. The proceedings at Cherbourg and Plymouth were discussed in detail, with a view to deducing arguments against the long slopes, and in favour of vertical sea walls. The Protest, by Sir Howard Douglas, in favour of long slopes was examined at great length, and the arguments used on both sides were analysed with skill and candour.

Colonel Emy's theory of the effects of the "flot du fond" was carefully examined; and without going to the entire length that he did, it was admitted that in many cases the effects produced were as he described them, and that the subject, as he had brought it forward, was well worthy the attention of civil engineers. The placing a vertical wall upon a substratum of rubble in the form of a long slope was shown to be pregnant with mischief, and had never been successful, and that the adoption of that system at Cherbourg had been a matter of necessity rather than of choice.

Mr. Alan Stevenson's clever experiments on the force of waves striking opposing bodies were given; and it was urged that the force shown to be developed by a breaking wave could not act upon a vertical wall, up and down which it would merely oscillate, whereas it might fall with all its accumulated force upon a slope, upon which it would naturally break.

In conclusion, it was urged, that although for Dover, which was the spot whereon to mount guard over the Channel, in order not only to prevent invasion, but to maintain our present naval supremacy, it might be permitted to expend a large sum of money, yet it would not do to have several Dovers, and therefore it behoved the authorities to consider carefully the site, the plan, and the method of construction, before commencing works, in which, in the present state of engineering science, the experience of the past should be used to avoid the errors that had occurred in former and similar works.

In the discussion which ensued, and in which the principal civil engineers engaged on great hydraulic works took part, after justly complimenting the Earl of Lovelace for the very able and impartial analysis he had made of the evidence contained in the Government Reports, and the documents in his possession, the speakers explained most satisfactorily the actual

circumstances and conditions of the works which had been instanced as failures; and it was shown that, far from being expensive or useless works, they had been completed within the original estimates, and that wherever the construction had required restoration or additions, it had arisen from the use of defective materials, which being on the spot it had been obligatory to employ, and not from the use of the long slope, which, as compared to vertical walls in similar situations, was shown to be more durable, and to have been in many instances successfully exhibited for vertical walls after they had succumbed to the assaults of the raging billows. The discussion was stopped prematurely by the adjournment of the meeting at the usual hour, but was announced for renewal at the next, being the last, meeting of the session.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

March 30th.—*Anniversary Meeting.*—The President in the chair. The report of the Council with the audited account of the Treasurer was read, and the Society proceeded to ballot for the Officers and Council for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were declared duly elected:—President, W. T. Brande; Vice-Presidents, J. T. Cooper, T. Graham, H. B. Leeson, M.D.; R. Phillips; Treasurer, R. Porret; Secretaries, R. Warrington, E. Ronalds, Ph. D.; Foreign Secretary, A. W. Hofmann, Ph. D.; Council, T. Andrews, M.D.; B. Brodie, W. Crum, W. De la Rue, J. J. Griffin, Sir R. Kane, M.D.; W. A. Miller, M.D.; L. Playfair, Ph. D.; E. Schunck, Ph. D.; E. Solly, E. F. Tschernaeher, Col. P. Yorke. The thanks of the Society were voted to the President, Officers and Council for their services during the past year.

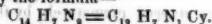
April 3rd.—The President in the chair. The papers read were:—

1. "Analysis of Thames Water," No. I. by G. F. Clarke. This paper forms the first of a series suggested by Dr. Hofmann to his students at the Royal College of Chemistry, from the fact that although numerous chemical investigations of this water have been made, yet no detailed results have ever been published. The water of the present analysis was taken from the middle of the river at Twickenham, two hours after high water, on the 16th December, 1847. The temperature was 49.1° Fahr., and the specific gravity 1.0003. It was found to contain 22.48995 grains of solid matter in the imperial gallon, consisting of carbonate of lime, soluble organic matter, insoluble organic matter, sulphate of soda, chloride of calcium, carbonate of magnesia, sulphate of potash, sulphate of lime, silicic acid, and free carbonic acid.

2. "On the Method of detecting Phosphoric Acid and Fluorine, and on the presence of these substances in the rocks and soils of various geological formations," by J. C. Nesbitt, (first part.) After describing the methods of analysis, and the precautions necessary to insure success, the author pointed out that fluoride of calcium might be easily mistaken for phosphate of magnesia. The fluorine should therefore be first separated by sulphuric acid, and the sulphate of lime by means of alcohol, this latter having been driven off by boiling, and tartaric acid and ammonia added in excess; the phosphoric acid is precipitated by an ammoniacal solution of sulphate of magnesia. The author also showed that on boiling fluoride of calcium with hydrochloric acid in a glass vessel, or in presence of silica, that silico-fluoric acid was produced, and the solution would then cause precipitate, not only in salts of baryta, but also in those of potash. In a solution of this kind, it might be easily mistaken for sulphuric acid.

April 17th.—The President in the chair.—Read a Paper, "Researches on the Action of the Volatile Bases," by Dr. A. W. Hofmann.—Actions of Cyanogen on Aniline, Toluidine, and Cumidine.—On examining the action of cyanogen upon several of the volatile bases, Dr. Hofmann found that, contrary to what might have been expected, no substitution takes place, direct compounds of these bases with cyanogen being produced still retaining the basic properties of the original substances. An alcoholic solution of aniline, when

subjected to a current of cyanogen, absorbs this gas in considerable quantity, a variety of compounds being formed. The principal product of the re-action is a crystalline body, which may be purified by washing with alcohol, dissolving in dilute hydrochloric acid, and precipitating with potassa. On re-dissolving this precipitate in boiling alcohol, the new compound is deposited in thin, colourless, and inodorous crystals, possessing a peculiar silver-like lustre. These crystals are insoluble in water, and sparingly soluble in boiling alcohol and ether; they are not volatile without decomposition. The composition of these crystals is expressed by the formula—



They are aniline, associated with the elements of cyanogen, and may therefore be called *cyaniline*.

Cyaniline is a well characterized although weak base. It forms definite and well crystallized salts with most acids, several of which compounds were analyzed.

- Hydrochlorate... $C_{11}H_7N_3$, H , N , Cy . HCl
- Hydrobromate... $C_{11}H_7N_3$, H , N , Cy . NBr
- Nitrate... $C_{11}H_7N_3$, H , N , Cy . HNO_3
- Platinum Salts... $C_{11}H_7N_3$, H , N , Cy . HCl , $PtCl_4$
- Gold Salts... $C_{11}H_7N_3$, H , N , Cy . HCl , $AuCl_3$

These compounds are, in fact, aniline salts; to which the elements of cyanogen have been added; although it was found impossible to produce them directly by the direct action of cyanogen on aniline salts. The salts of cyaniline, especially if an excess of acid be present, are soon decomposed, with reproduction of aniline; the cyanogen undergoing peculiar transformations, which will be described in another paper.

The analogues of aniline—viz., toluidine and cumidine, exhibit exactly the same comportment with cyanogen; they produce two new basic compounds:

- Cyanotoluidine... $C_{10}H_7N_3$, H , N , Cy , and
- Cyanocumidine... $C_{11}H_9N_3$, H , N , Cy .

Nicotine and Leucoline seem to belong to another class of bases; on treatment with cyanogen, they did not yield similar compounds. In conclusion, the author remarks that the new cyanogen bases are some of the first instances of a kind of compound class among the acids. They must be considered as conjugated bases, and if the view of Berzelius is adopted, who regards all organic alkaloids as conjugated ammonia compounds, we have to look at these new compounds as conjugated bases of the second order.

May 1st.—The President in the chair.—Read, List.

On some Phenomena of Capillary Attraction, observed with Chloroform, Bisulphuret of Carbon, and other liquids, by Dr. G. Wilson. When chloroform is placed in a test-tube or other glass vessel, its surface, like that of most other liquids, exhibits a concavity upwards; if water or dilute acid be poured upon it, the curvature is immediately reversed, and the surface of the dense liquid becomes convex upwards. When, instead of the acid, a dilute solution of alkali is brought into contact with the chloroform, all curvature on the surface suddenly disappears. When a drop of chloroform is placed in a vessel of water having a flat bottom, and then submitted to the alkaline solution, it flattens out on the bottom as if it had been exposed to a crushing force. On slightly super-saturating the alkali with an acid, the flattened chloroform starts into its previous globular shape, with a momentum and rapidity such as might be exhibited by a highly elastic substance. These alterations in the curvature of the surface may be produced any number of times successively, by alternately rendering the liquid above the chloroform acid or alkaline. These phenomena are much more conspicuous when the chloroform is coloured by means of litmus. Dutch liquid, bisulphuret of carbon, and some of the volatile oils, which are heavier than water, are acted upon in the same manner as chloroform by acids and alkalis. The author appeals to the three following facts, as proof that the phenomena described are due, in a great measure, to an action of the liquids upon the mutual attractions of the particles of the chloroform, independently of any action upon

the solid containing vessel:—1. Chloroform rapidly wets and sinks in alkaline solutions;—2. When chloroform is shaken with these liquids, it breaks into more numerous and smaller globules than in water or acids;—3. When, from a narrow pipette, an alkaline solution is dropped on a large globule of chloroform under water in a wide vessel, the globule begins to flatten before the alkali can have reached the bottom so as to act on the solid. He consequently connects the phenomenon of the flattening of chloroform under alkalis with the chemical affinity of the latter bodies for it, and its rounding under acids or water, with the comparative indifference which even the strong acids exhibit towards it. This attractive power of chemical affinity is, however, probably not the only cause at work in producing the effect.

2nd. "On the Mineral Waters of Cheltenham," by Messrs F. A. Abel and T. H. Rowney. This communication forms the second of the proposed series of analysis of the waters of mineral springs, which is in course of investigation in the laboratories of the Royal College of Chemistry. It includes the wells of the King's Spa saline, King's Spa sulphur and saline, Cambray chalybeate, and the Pitville saline. The authors, after giving a short account of these springs, detail the processes of analysis adopted in each case, and this is followed by the results, to which is also appended a tabular view of the results of previous investigations.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, June 22nd.—Mr. W. E. Taunton, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, was admitted *ad eundem*, and the following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—Rev. T. Greenall, Brasenose, grand compounder; Rev. W. Cunby, Rev. H. C. Pigou, Rev. C. F. Seymour, Rev. G. W. Winter, University; Rev. G. H. Sumner, Rev. J. Collins, Balliol; Rev. C. R. Clifton, Merton; Rev. B. F. James, Rev. T. W. Shaw, Exeter; A. S. D. Harris, Christ Church; Rev. C. Chapman, Trinity; Rev. V. W. Ryan, Magdalen Hall; J. R. T. Eaton, Fellow of Merton.

Bachelors of Arts.—F. Young, Queen's; D. Jones, J. Severne, Brasenose; Hon. A. Egerton, E. J. Stanley, H. Roberts, Christ Church; J. MacGachen, Pembroke; C. M. Carré, Magdalen Hall; A. Poole, St. Edmund Hall; J. Cox, Scholar of Lincoln.

Oxford, June 24.—Chancellor's Prizes for 1848.—Latin Essay, "Quenam precipue fuerit in causa, curgens mercatura florentissima iniquam diuturnam ceterit," T. V. French, B.A., Scholar of University.

Latin Verse, "Tabus Astronomicis," R. F. Hessey, Demy of Magdalen.

English Essay, "Respective Effects of the Fine Arts and Mechanical Skill on National Character," J. Conington, B.A., Fellow of University.

Sir Roger Newdigate's Prize.—English Verse, "Columbus in Chains," C. Blackstone, Scholar of Corpus.

The Eliberton Theological Prize for an English Essay on "The Propriety of the Office under the Mosaic Dispensation," has been awarded to W. Bright, B.A., Fellow of University.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

May 11.—The President, Mr. Hallam, in the chair.

The readings at this meeting were the following:—

1. A communication in a letter from Colonel Leake to the Secretary.

In a paper by Lieut. Spratt, published in the Society's Transactions, vol. ii. (new series), an inscription on a rock near Chalcis is printed, from an imperfect copy: Colonel Leake now communicated an exact transcript, recently made by Lieut. Spratt, with remarks by himself. The inscription is an epigram, in six Iambic verses, recording a public work of Theophylactus; which seems to have consisted in reconstructing, or repairing, at his own expense, (*οἰκιστὸς τῶν ὁδῶν*), the bridges, and renewing the embankments, which still supply the communication over the Euripus, from the Boeotian shore to the town of Egripi, the ancient Chalcis.

Theophylactus is styled *protospatharius*; and Col. Leake stated reasons for believing that he was one of two *protospatharii* of that name, mentioned in history as having been employed at the court of the Emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitus.

2. A Postscript to Mr. J. L. Stoddart's Memoir on the Inscribed Pottery of Rhodes, Chidus, &c., (see *Lit. Gaz.*, No. 1032). Mr. Stoddart had, in the beginning

of his memoir, alluded to a dissertation on a similar subject, by Professor Thiersch, which, however, he was then acquainted with only from report. It having been since pointed out to him, in the second volume of the *Abhandlungen* of the Bavarian Academy, in the Society's library, he in this communication gave some account of its contents, with a few remarks on the monuments to which it relates. These monuments are forty-eight *manubria*, similar to those described in the memoir, found in the vicinity of Athens; which Professor Thiersch, notwithstanding that on one of them he found the rose, (the Rhodian symbol,) on seventeen the name of the Cnidians, and on one that of the people of Thasos, considers to be specimens of Athenian earthenware, and supposes their legends and devices to have reference to masters of potteries. Mr. Stoddart, on the contrary, believes that by the knowledge derived from the examination of the Alexandrian collection, communicated in his memoir above referred to, we are led to a very different conclusion, (viz., that the name stamped on these earthen relics, whether of Rhodian or Cnidian manufacture, is that of the priest of Helios, the eponymous magistrate for the year in which the impression took place; and he also deduced from the facts published by the Professor, some farther particulars connected with the history of ancient commerce, a subject elucidated in a very interesting and ingenious manner in the memoir itself.

3. A further portion of the Memoir by Professor Zumpt, on the Schools and Scholarchs of Athens; it referred chiefly to the new impulse given to the Neo-Platonic philosophy and theurgic by Plutarchus, one of the followers of Iamblicus, by his daughter Asclepigeneia, and by Synesius.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

17th June.—Professor Wilson in the chair. The Director read a paper, written by himself, "On the Military Science of the Ancient Hindus." The paper began with the observation, that although the Hindus had always been inferior to their foreign invaders in practical warfare, they were probably superior to them in its theory. A supplementary portion of their *Vedas*, or sacred institutes, was devoted to the science of war, under the denomination of *Dhanur Veda*. This original treatise is probably lost, but many interesting particulars are derivable from the *Agni Purana*, the *Maha-Charata*, and other of their standard works. The bow appears to have been their chief weapon, (as is demonstrated by the word *dhanuk*, a bow, in the name *Dhanur Veda*;) but other missile arms, as the discus, javelins, short iron clubs, &c., were used. The troops were also generally armed with swords, maces, axes, and spears; and defended by helmets, quilted jackets, and coats of mail. Their armies were theoretically arranged in bodies of relative proportions, consisting of elephants, chariots, horse, and foot—the former two being equal in number, and the latter, in the proportion of three horsemen and five footmen for each chariot. The number of chariots and elephants is the great characteristic of Hindu warfare; and it is remarkable that in their heroic poems the heroes are generally represented as riding in a chariot, and never on a horse: in a few cases they are mentioned as coming to battle on an elephant; but in the course of time horses have entirely superseded chariots in India, as in Britain, where the chariot once played so important a part in battle. The paper proceeded with a description of the various sorts of bows, arrows, and other weapons used by the ancient Hindus. The question as to the knowledge of gunpowder, or any similar explosive substance, by the ancient people of India, is one of great historical interest. It is clear, from their medical works, that they were acquainted with the constituents of gunpowder, and possessed them in great abundance; and our acquaintance with their literature is as yet too imperfect to warrant a reply in the negative, because we have not met with a positive account of the invention. Their writings make frequent reference to arms of fire; and rockets, which appear to be an Indian invention, though not mentioned by name in Sanscrit writings, had long been

used in their armies when Europeans first came in contact with them. Tactics, also, were not omitted in Hindu military science: the division of the army into centre, flanks, wings, and reserve, is laid down; and rules for the order of march, for the modes of overcoming obstacles, for the choice of positions, and for the different kinds of array, are given, and illustrated by quotations from the *Agni Purana*. The subject of encampment also received due attention; in illustration of which, the paper concluded with a quotation from the *Maha-Charata*, describing, in considerable detail, the pitching of Yudhishtira's camp "upon a level and fertile spot," on the banks of the Hinanvati, agreeably to the precepts laid down for the regulation of the practice. Several gentlemen were elected resident members of the Society, and the meeting adjourned till November.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

June 23.—Mr. Pettigrew, Vice-President, in the chair.—Mr. Moore communicated a sketch and description of a massive gold ring, weighing an ounce, found in Somersetshire. It is set with an aureus of Alexander Severus, of the *Liberalitas* type, which is in excellent preservation.

Mr. Burkill presented a copy of Magna Charta, recently lithographed by Mr. Causton, from, it was said, an ancient copy preserved in Picardy, but in whose possession did not transpire.

Etchings of the British coins which during the present year had been communicated to the Association from various parts were laid upon the table.

Mr. Roach Smith communicated particulars relating to the discovery at Bittern Manor, near Southampton, of the remains of the quay or wharf of the Roman station Clausentum, which occupied the site of the house and grounds of Bittern Manor, now the seat of Mrs. Shedden. Mr. Smith referred to the volume of the proceedings at the Winchester Congress for an account of the various monuments of Roman art discovered at this spot, among which, he said, the inscriptions were of no ordinary historical importance; and, he added, this interesting locality could never be alluded to without exciting a pleasing recollection of the courteous reception given to the Association at its second Congress by Mrs. Stuart Hall, or without a feeling of regret at the loss of that amiable lady.

During some recent excavations for horticultural purposes, on the north side bordering the river Itchen, at the depth of nine feet, a stout platform composed of a framework of wood and stones, was discovered, extending more than forty paces in length. The woodwork is divided into compartments, which were filled with calcareous stones; and in front was a row of piles. Coins of the Antonines and Roman pottery were also found, and a considerable quantity of rope composed of fibres of wood. Mrs. Shedden has very liberally ordered the excavations to be carefully carried on, with a view to lay open the remains to their full extent.

Mr. Gould compared the mode of construction of this Roman wharf with that often adopted in modern times, and Mr. Syer Cuming observed that ropes made with fibres of wood were common among the ancient Egyptians.

Mr. Snull brought forward a notice of the discovery of an ancient boat or galley near Southampton, communicated to him by Mr. Pridaux, of that town. It had been supposed to be Danish, but no drawings or description to warrant that appropriation had been furnished. Mr. Smith said an application from the Council had been sent to the Mayor and Corporation, with a view to secure the galley for the County Museum at Winchester, or for the British Museum. Such objects were of the highest interest, and especially suited for public museums. The late Mr. Artis discovered a British canoe in the bed of the river Nen, which, he was informed, he had offered to present to the British Museum, but as his offer was declined, unless he paid the carriage, the canoe was never removed. He (Mr. Smith) regretted the Trustees of the British Museum were not more alive to the interest of our national antiquities.

Mr. Wilson, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries

of Scotland, said that an ancient boat, formed of trunks of oak trees, was found, a short time since, at Glasgow, fifteen feet below the site of the old cross of that town. The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland lost no time in endeavouring to get it removed to the Museum of Edinburgh, but although they failed in doing this, the interest they evinced in its preservation induced the people of Glasgow to protect it from destruction, and it was now in a place of safety, and open to the inspection of the public.

The Chairman remarked, that in his opinion the comparative indifference shown to our early antiquities at the British Museum did not so much rest with the trustees as with the officials of the establishment, and it proved how very desirable it was that the department of British antiquities should be placed under the control of persons perfectly qualified for the situation. He hoped this important point would engage the serious attention of the commission of inquiry appointed by Parliament.

THE GUNPOWDER CONTROVERSY.

SIR,—If your correspondent, J. C. R., had quoted a little more from Mr. Hunter's paper, the smallness of that antiquary's reading would have become much more apparent. He only refers to the passage cited by Ducange under *Bombarda*, which carries the knowledge of cannon to the year 1338. If Mr. Hunter had really been acquainted with the discoveries which informed the world that gunpowder was known half a century before that period, is it possible that he would thus have referred to a hackneyed quotation? There is no great discredit in it, and Mr. Hunter is not the first person who has ventured on a subject he was not quite capable of discussing. The discredit consists in not being willing to acknowledge his error. In justice, let me add that Mr. Hunter's words are, *that the traces of any earlier use of the gun by other nations are faint*. He did not write false grammar as well as nonsense.

T. R. HAYNE.

Sale of Ancient Manuscripts.—In regard to periodical publications, we may truly parody the French proverb, *L'homme propose mais Dieu dispose*; and say, *Le redacteur propose mais l'imprimeur dispose*. The annexed was written for the *Gazette* of Saturday, June 17th, looking prospectively to Messrs. Puttick's sale, and desiring to inform our readers, and particularly the collectors of remarkable and valuable books, of an event exceedingly interesting to them:—

"*Ancient Historical MSS.*—We have had bare time to glance at some of these manuscripts; but among them we have seen some of extraordinary interest. A wardrobe-book of Edward I. contains a most minute daily account of his movements and expenses in Scotland, from April, 1302, to April, 1305. The occasionally low state of the royal exchequer (one evening's balance, leaving fivepence in hand) is speedily replenished by forced loans. The entries generally afford very curious ideas of the doings of the period, when Wallace was made prisoner and afterwards cruelly put to death. Another similar book presents the particulars of two earlier years of Eleanor, his queen (1289-90), with the expenses of her funeral, including seventeen bushels of barley for embalming the body. Wardrobe-books of his sons are also in the list; and one singular record of naval expenses, *temp. Henry III.*, in which we are told of eggs used in making the paint wherewith to paint a ship."—Such was the intelligence we meant to communicate, but, since that is past, we shall merely state that we attended the sale on Friday, and saw the lots knocked down at what we thought very moderate prices. The Book of Lord John of Berewicke, that containing Queen Eleanor's expenses, was sold for 40*l.* A duplicate, with some variations, of the volume, of a year's expenses of Edward I., edited by M. Topham, for the Royal Society of Antiquaries, brought 30*l.* The Scottish Expenditure of Edward, A.D. 1302, went up to 61*l.*; and the other, from 1302 to 1306, only 63*l.* A wardrobe book of his son Edward, 1319, sold for 20*l.* 10*s.*; and another of his two sons, Thomas and Edmund, 11*l.* 10*s.*; one of Stapleton, the Bishop of Exeter, 1323, who was beheaded by

the London mob, four years later, in 1327, went for 10*l.*; and a *Comptus* for victualling Berwick in the year 1302, 27*l.* The sale altogether was very interesting; and conducted in the most just and liberal manner.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Tuesday.—Horticultural, 3 p.m.

Saturday.—Botanic, 3 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

NOTWITHSTANDING the pressure of the times weighs heavily on the Fine Arts, we have evidence before us that though the active may be at rest, the studious and theoretical employ the thoughts of intelligent men and enlist the speculation of enterprising publishers, even more than in ordinary and better seasons. Six considerable volumes are on the table before us, and all of artistic value; independently of several preceding works which have claimed our notice within the last few months.

Annals of the Artists of Spain, by W. Stirling, M.A., 3 vols. 8vo, pp. 1481, (Ollivier,) is a production of a more comprehensive nature and more sterling and lasting description than the Arts have had to illustrate them for a very long period. It embraces 1800 years, and exhausts the entire Spanish school, and the contributions to the Arts in Spain by foreigners.

Contributions to the Literature of the Fine Arts, by C. Lock Eastlake, R.A., 8vo, pp. 396, (Murray,) is a volume which follows up in a most instructive manner his learned and admirable *Materials for a History of Oil Painting*, which has been received by all ranks with such unanimous applause.

The late Henry Howard's Course of Lectures on Painting, with a Memoir of the Author, by Frank Howard, pp. 291, (Bohn,) is another valuable contribution to the knowledge of what is required from the Arts and what the Arts can do; whilst

Practical Essays on various Branches of the Fine Arts, &c., by John Burnet, pp. 200, (Bogue,) informs us more in regard to the means by which they accomplish their ends.

To return in order to these publications. Mr. Stirling, in a plain-spoken preface, if he observe the Castilian proverb, "*Haz buena farina y no toques bocina*," (to make good flour without blowing a trumpet,) certainly does not spare a good blast to winnow and scatter to the winds the chaff of his predecessors. Richard Cumberland's performances meet with no mercy, and Bourgoing is quoted for justly describing them as an indigested compilation, unworthy of being the sister of the Misses Cumberland, the author's daughters who were with him in Spain, and very handsome. He also cites a ludicrous blunder in Cumberland's translation from Palomino, (almost the only authority he consulted,) of which we are told:—"Describing the familiarity and friendship in which Philip II. lived with his painter, Sanchez Coello, he says, (vol. i. p. 90,) that 'in those moments when his temper relaxed into complacency, the King would mount the ladder (the only one he ever climbed without ambition or disgrace) that privately communicated with the painting room' of the artist. The words of Palomino, whom he followed are these, 'The King was accustomed often to come to the apartment of Sanchez, *por un transito secreto, con ropa de levantar*, by a secret passage, in his dressing-gown,' an article of apparel which Cumberland, catching at the sound, and impatient of wasting a moment in reaching his dictionary, pleasantly converted into a ladder. Besides its inaccuracy, his work also labours under another grave disadvantage, that of having been composed without personal acquaintance, on the author's part, with Valencia and Andalusia, and their rich treasures of local art."

Captain Davies who published a life of Murillo, in 1819, of which we have no recollection, fares little better, as "a collection of extracts relating to Murillo

from the writings of Cumberland, Bourgoing, D'Argenville, Palomino, Ponz, Jovellanos, and Cean Bermudez, some of them translated and some in the original French or Spanish, and strung together with a few pages and notes by the gallant captain himself. The sole merit of the book consists in the version of Cean Bermudez's Letter on the life and works of Murillo, which, though sufficiently ill done, is not quite so unintelligible as the original compositions of the translator."

Mr. A. O. Neil's *Dictionary of Spanish Painters*, (1833-4,) is likewise pool-pooled; and a later *History of the Spanish School of Painting*, by the author of *Travels through Sicily, &c.*, (1843,) is still more disparaged. Captain S. S. Cook, (now Widdrington,) R.N., Sir E. Head, and Mr. Ford are, on the contrary, lauded to the echo for their publications on *Spain and the Spanish Arts*, and most honourable mention is made of the author's obligations to them. The French productions on the subject are treated as still less worthy of repute than the earlier English. Thus, Huard's *Vue Complète des Peintres Espagnols, &c.* (Paris, 1839) is said to be, "with three paltry illustrations, one of which is the portrait, not of Velazquez or Murillo, but of M. Huard. This production was begun, it appears, as a sort of hand book for the Spanish gallery of the Louvre, and panegyric on Baron Taylor who amassed that colossal collection of bad and spurious pictures. Whatever its pages contain of truth has obviously been taken from M. Quilliet, whose dictionary, and the Louvre catalogues, were probably the only books that M. Huard took the trouble to look into. Borrowing his lives of Spanish painters from M. Quilliet, as Goldsmith's scribbler translated Homer out of Pope, M. Huard has likewise traduced the rival whom he robbed. He condemns the dictionary, as a cold, colourless, and incomplete work, and boasts of his own researches in libraries and cabinets of engravings, (p. ii.) prudently, however, omitting to name any collection to which he was indebted, or any author whom he had consulted, except M. Quilliet. But more than this, he has signalized himself by an offense, of which, I am happy to say, our worst English writers on the subject are blameless. To such of his lives as appeared most wanting, in M. Quilliet's pages, in warmth and colour, he has added those agreeable qualities by freely supplying incidents from his own imagination."

Instances of this are adduced. The German works are not very comprehensive, but more accurate; and Italy is almost silent on the Spanish school. The Spanish authors on whom Mr. Stirling has principally relied are, Cean Bermudez, Palomino, Ponz, Pacheco, Carducho, and Butron, and he has, from their records and his own examination, taste, and judgment, completed a history which can only leave gleanings for any future labourer in the same field. There are also some interesting illustrations. As a sample of the writer's style we copy a few of the opening pages:—

"Among the most remarkable features in the history of Spain are the rapid growth and decay of her power. She first began to rank among the great kingdoms in the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella. Their great-grandson, Phillip II., was the acknowledged leader and protector of Catholic Europe. Under Charles II., great-grandson of the second Phillip, Castile had ceased to produce statesmen and soldiers, and Peru, to furnish ducats, at least to the royal treasury. The monarchy was as feeble as the monarch; its star had run its course in little more than six generations rising at the end of the fifteenth, and setting at the end of the seventeenth century."

"This era was likewise the great period of literature and art in Spain. Growing up with her political greatness, they added lustre to her prosperity, and a grace and charm to her decline. During the middle ages, her taste and imagination had been embodied in the unrivalled multitude of ballads, sung by unknown bards, part of which the Castilian Romancers still preserve, and in the magnificent Cathedrals reared by nameless architects in her Christian cities; the songs and the shrines being equally tinged with the colouring of northern piety and oriental fancy. Poetry, the eldest

and most docile of the fine arts, was the first of the sisterhood to be affected by the revival of ancient learning. Spanish writers had borrowed somewhat of refinement and correctness from the Latin and Italian, long ere architecture in Spain had yielded submission to Greek and Roman rules, and ere painting and sculpture had produced ought but uncouth caricatures of the human form. Juan de Mena had written his graceful love songs, Santillana had even wandered from the gay science into the strange field of criticism, and Hernan Castillo was probably preparing the first Cancionero for the press of Valencia, before the pencil of Rincon had obtained for him the cross of Santiago from the hands of Ferdinand and Isabella."

"The reign of 'the Catholic Sovereigns' is memorable for the discovery not merely of a new continent, but of vast regions of intellectual enterprise. History, the drama, and painting, were revived in Spain in the same stirring age that sought and found new empires beyond the great ocean. Pulgar, the father of Castilian history, Cota, the earliest forerunner of Calderon, Rincon, the first native painter in the Peninsula who deserved the name, were the contemporaries of Columbus, and, with the great navigator, mingled in the courtly throngs of the presence-chamber of Isabella. The progress of refinement during the first half of the sixteenth century was, perhaps, more rapid in Spain than in any other country. The iron soldier of Castile, the Roman of his age, became the intellectual vassal of the elegant Italians whom he conquered,

'Græcia capta ferum victorem cepit et artes,
Intulit agresti Latium.'

"Under the Emperor Charles V., the Iberian Peninsula, the fairest province of ancient Rome, grew into the fairest colony of modern art. The classical Boscan and Garcilasso, and the many-gifted Mendoza, left behind them monuments of literature which might bear comparison with those of Italy, Berruete and Vigarny, schools of painting and sculpture that Florence might have been proud to own. The odes of Fray Luis de Leon were excelled in strength and grace by none ever recited at the court of Ferrara; and pastoral Estremadura could boast a painter—Morales of Badajoz—not unworthy to cope with Sebastian del Piombo on his own lofty ground."

"During the reigns of the three Philips, literature and art kept an even pace in their rapid and triumphant march. When Juan de Toledo laid the foundations of the Escorial, Cervantes was writing his early poems and romances in the schools of Madrid. The versatile Theotocopuli was designing his various churches in and around Toledo, and embellishing them with paintings and sculptures, whilst Lope de Vega was dashing off his thousand dramas for the diversion of the court. Mariana composed in the cloister his great history of Spain, whilst Sanchez Coello, the courtier and man of fashion, was illustrating the story of his own times by his fine portraits of royal and noble personages. In the reign of Philip III., Velazquez and Murillo were born, and the great novel of Cervantes first saw the light. Solis and Villegas, Moreto and the brothers Leonardo de Argensola, famous in history, poetry, and the drama, were contemporaries of Ribera, Cano, and Zurbaran, and with them shared the favour and patronage of the tasteful Philip IV. When Velazquez received the cross of Santiago, Calderon was amongst the knights who greeted the new companion of that ancient order. In the evil days of Charles II., Spain and her literature and her arts drooped and declined together. Painting strove the hardest against fate, and was the last to succumb. Murillo and Valdés, Mazo and Carreño, and their scholars, nobly maintained the honour of a long line of painters, till the total eclipse of Spain in the War of the Succession. With the House of Bourbon came in foreign fashions, and foreign standards of taste. Henceforth Crebillon and Voltaire became the models of Castilian writing; Vanloo and Mengs, of Spanish painting. From the effects of this disastrous imitation, painting, at least, has never recovered."

It would be vain to quote any portion of the bio-

graphies, or criticisms on the paintings of the great artists; suffice it to say, that careful research and superior intelligence are manifest throughout the whole *Annals*.

"The private collections of England could probably furnish forth a gallery of Spanish pictures second only to that of the Queen of Spain. But into our unhappy national collection, lodged in a building that would disgrace the veriest plasterer, and described in a catalogue that seems to have been drawn up by an auctioneer, Murillo alone of Spanish painters has as yet effected an entrance. He appears there, however, to advantage in several sacred compositions; but the variety of his style may be better appreciated in his works at Dulwich college, where Velazquez likewise shines with some lustre."

Mr. Eastlake's leading drift is to insist on the cultivation of the faculties and intellect as being, at least, quite as essential to greatness in Art as the most skilful and incessant practice. There cannot be a more certain truism. The mediocrity of our School is based on the superficiality of the artists whose minds are hardly informed beyond a school-boy's sphere; and the exceptions are only proofs of genius in particular branches, which do not require the higher attainments of science and learning, or the very few who are really well educated, though some of these, in turn, may want the technical art to create and embody their own conceptions. Mr. Belenden Ker has written the *Essays* in this volume to expound and enforce Mr. Eastlake's views; but we confess we felt them quite as much in that gentleman's Reports and Appendix connected with the Commission on the Fine Arts. Fresco painting and the right style for decorating public buildings are yet *sub judice*.

Howard's *Lectures* are full of good sense and judicious observation. They throw much useful light on many topics with which the aspirant ought to make himself acquainted, and which are desirable to be known by artist and public.

To Mr. Burnet is due, at least, equal praise in regard to his practical remarks on the manipulations in painting. The schoolmaster is abroad, and teaches well. His critique on Wilkie and anecdotes of his career from boyhood to the end are full of interest. His sombre view of our native school as at present constituted; his censure of the Royal Academy, as a prevalent cause of want of originality and merely vicious imitative production; and his ideas upon the Art-Union and other questions of the day impart to his volume that popular consistency which is sure to make it read and valued.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

NOTES FROM ABROAD.

Extracts from a Journal in the South of France.—Hotel at Marseilles.—"I was recommended to a new and handsome hotel in the Boulevard, where I was shown into a spacious and well-furnished bed-room. On the wall of the room I was rather surprised to see a list, printed and framed, of the various articles of furniture which it contained. My first idea was that the landlord had done it, in the innocence of his heart, to call the attention of travellers to the well-furnished state of his apartments; but, however, before I left I had an opportunity of discovering its use. I had just packed up my portmanteau to depart, when one of the servants of the hotel entered, and marching straightway up to this placard, began to read off the various items *seriatim*, looking round the room at the same time, till his eye rested upon the article in question, 'Un lavoir.' (a look round); 'bon.' 'Une caraffe.' (another look round); 'bon.'—and so on through the list. 'What on earth are you doing there?' I asked. 'I am only looking to see that everything is right,' coolly replied the man. This was the fact. It was his duty to see that I did not pack up the towel-stand, or pocket the basin; though, at the same time, I do not suppose that it was intended he should check the list in the traveller's presence."—Advertisement copied in a Hotel at Nismes. "Hotel Luxembourg-Avignon. That Hotel, etc.

ganly decorated, affords to travellers, besides the convenience of the *lucky* situation of ist local, the great advantage to be the nearest of the steam-boat and post-house. One finds in it apartments *eloped* to every hour at different price, as well as coaches at pleasure for Vancluse, and public carriages for other places."

Mademoiselle Rachel.—Our Brussels neighbours are very indignant at a recent scene in the life of Mademoiselle Rachel. Everybody knows the origin of this great tragedian, who commenced her career by being a poor street-singer; she therefore knows experimentally what it is to cope with poverty and hardships, to receive public charity, and feel the unkindness of selfishness. It appears, however, that on the day of her last appearance at the Circus, the proprietor took himself off without paying any of his company; and a deputation of her unfortunate comrades waited upon her to entreat her to act for their benefit, even if she appeared in only a single scene. But instead of complying with their request, as they all expected, a stern refusal was the only answer of M. Felix and his daughter. "This scandalous egotism, say the Brussels papers, and unfeeling conduct towards her former comrades, who are unexpectedly plunged in deep distress, has excited the greatest indignation."

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS.

A VERY important meeting on this very important subject took place on Saturday, in the great room of the London Tavern; the Duke of Richmond in the chair; supported by the Marquis of Westminster, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Brougham, Lord Kinnaird, the Bishop of Norwich, Mr. M. Milnes, Mr. Serjeant Hill, Mr. Serjeant Adams, Captain Williams, Mr. Pownall, Mr. Rotch, Mr. Hoare, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Ricardo, and other gentlemen who have taken an interest in the solution of the difficult problem—how best to prevent juvenile delinquency and dispose of the juvenile criminal. The Rev. Mr. Sydney Turner, the Chaplain to the Philanthropic Institution, officiated as Secretary, and the proceedings were, in fact, founded on the new move in this Society to extend their plan to the cultivation of an agricultural colony, somewhat resembling that which has been so successful at Mettray. The noble Chairman, Lord Kinnaird, Mr. Milnes, Lord Brougham, Lord Harrowby, the Bishop of Norwich, Mr. Rotch, Mr. Adams, &c., addressed the meeting in eloquent speeches, (as if charitable feelings were the true springs of oratory,) and statements were made which bore in the strongest manner on the impolicy, the inefficiency, the costliness, the cruelty, and the unchristianity of the existing system, and the absolute necessity for adopting another and a better course in the treatment of this growing social disease. The example of the Philanthropic School and the Refuge for the Destitute were adduced to show how much reformation could be carried into effect with the young, even after they had been leprously tainted with precocious vice, and how those who were rescued from incipient crime were almost invariably saved from a career of guilt and shaped into useful and respectable members of the great human family. Education and emigration had, of course, their warm advocates; but the immediate remedy was sought in a petition to the legislature, praying Government to adopt measures for the establishment of industrial and well-regulated asylums in every county, to which magistrates might commit erring children for instruction in religion, morality, and mechanical labours, instead of sending them to the contamination of gaols, to be nurtured in iniquity and turned loose upon the world with no other resource but to prey upon it till they were ripened, through many detections, trials, and imprisonments (expensive to the country), for their certain ultimate destiny,—the hulks, the transport, or the gallows.

So self-evident and convincing are these truths,

* We were not made aware of any plan, though equally called for, to save the accused from contamination when committed for, and previous to, trial.—Ed. L. G.

our only wonder is, that they should not have forced themselves on the common sense of mankind long, long ago. We rejoice that they are now brought forward in a more tangible shape than heretofore, and that the attention of our rulers and the public at large must be drawn to their serious consideration. Surely to potter with such vital subjects is unworthy of the science of government; and among the different excellent designs now in progress for the benefit of the poorer classes, there is not one more deserving of general support and comprehensive official ministering out of the resources of the nation, than that which would reclaim thousands (in London alone are many thousands) of boyish delinquents and girls, abandoned to any vile course before they reach their teens, restore them to the paths of virtue, send them forth trained to habits of industry and with means whereby to live, sound in principles, productive contributors to the universal weal, and not wretched consumers of the common stock, curses to themselves and the community, the expense of whose education in crime (without a chance of redemption left for them, however penitent and desirous to turn from the evil of their ways) exceeds, in a tenfold degree the cost which would save them from all this sin, depredation, degradation, and misery. As it is, the first step in offence against the laws is like the fatal error in woman; and the unhappy offenders of tender years might well repeat the poet's adage—

"In vain with tears their loss they may deplore,
They set, like stars that fall, to rise no more."

Anniversary of Bethlem and Bridewell Hospitals.

—This annual *fête* took place in the Hall of Bridewell on Wednesday, Sir P. Laurie, the Governor of the hospitals, presiding. The toasts of the day, proposed with the chairman's usual tact and ability, called up the Bishop of Oxford, General Sir George Pollock, Sir George Carroll, Sir W. Stirling, and others, who addressed the company in appropriate and impressive speeches; the eloquent Prelate and illustrious General, in particular, with great applause. One of the gratifying statements to which we would especially refer, was that which related to the House of Occupation, where the principle advocated at the Philanthropic meeting (above noticed) has been adopted for a considerable length of time, and where a hundred and fifty juvenile offenders are at this moment receiving the benefit of religious instruction, and being taught useful trades by which to earn an honest living. Here, as elsewhere, wherever tried, the system has been found to work well, and the reformed children sent out (one hundred and fourteen in number, if we understand aright) have conducted themselves, in their future intercourse with the world, entirely to the satisfaction of those who have thus rescued them from perdition. In short, it can never be too stringently inculcated, that gaols (as laid down by Lord Brougham) are no places for the reform of criminals, and that workhouses (as Lord Harrowby observed) are the most certain and prolific nurseries of crime.

ORIGINAL,

AND CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE.

PROVERBS AND POPULAR SAYINGS.

JULY.

A THIN meadow is soon mowed.

Mastery mows the meadow down.

As St. Swithin's day is fair or foul, so is the weather for forty days. "Jupiter, to reward the piety of a certain countryman, promised to give him whatever he would ask. The countryman desired that he might have the management of the weather on his own estate. He obtained his request, and immediately distributed rain, snow, and sunshine among his several fields, as he thought the nature of the soil required. At the end of the year when he expected to see a more than ordinary crop, his harvest fell infinitely short of that of his neighbours. Upon which (says the fable) he desired Jupiter to take the weather again into his hands."—*Spectator*, vol. 1, Lett. 25.

The Herrings are na' good till they smell the new hay. A whimsical idea drawn from the coincidence of the herring-fishery and the hay-harvest on the coast of Northumberland. The following is the Newcastle "herring-cry":—"Fresh heerin—fresh heerin—fresh heerin: four two-pence caller heerin—four two-pence caller heerin: here's your cuddy-legs—here's your Dunbar wethers—here's your January harrin."

Midsummer-droppings. That portion of fruit which falls about this period of the year.

If St. Swithin greets, [weeps], the proverb says, it will be a wet weather will be foul for forty days.

A shower of rain in July, when the corn begins to fill, is worth a plough of oxen, and all that belongs therewith.

Some rain, some rest!

Fine weather isn't always best.

Frosty nights, and hot sunny days.

Set the corn-fields all in a blaze, (i.e. they have a tendency to forward the ripening of the "white" crops.

P. B., June, 1848.

RED INDIAN LEGEND.

[We recently reprinted from the New York *Literary World* some curious and interesting Indian Legends, quoted by it from an American publication; to these we have now to add another example, obtained in the same manner from *The Indian in his Wigwam*, by H. R. Schoolcraft.—Ed. L. G.]

"Mukakee Mindemoec; or, the Toad-Woman."

Great good luck once happened to a young woman who was living all alone in the woods, with nobody near her but her little dog, for, to her surprise, she found fresh meat every morning at her door. She felt very anxious to know who it was that supplied her; and, watching one morning very early, she saw a handsome young man deposit the meat. After his being seen by her, he became her husband, and she had a son by him. One day, not long after this, the man did not return at evening as usual from hunting. She waited till late at night, but all in vain. Next day she swung her babe to sleep in its tuckagun, or cradle, and then said to her dog: "Take care of your brother whilst I am gone, and when he cries, halloo for me." The cradle was made of the finest wampum, and all its bandages and decorations were of the same costly material. After a short time, the woman heard the cry of her faithful dog, and running home as fast as she could, she found her child gone and the dog too. But on looking round, she saw pieces of the wampum of her child's cradle bit off by the dog, who strove to retain the child and prevent his being carried off by an old woman, called Mukakee Mindemoec, or the Toad-Woman. The mother followed at full speed, and occasionally came to lodges inhabited by old women, who told her at what time the thief had passed: they also gave her shoes, that she might follow on. There were a number of these old women, who seemed as if they were all prophetesses. Each of them would say to her, that when she arrived in pursuit of her stolen child at the next lodge, she must set the toes of the moccasins they had loaned her pointing homewards, and they would return of themselves. She would get others from her entertainers further on, who would also give her directions how to proceed to recover her son. She thus followed in the pursuit, from valley to valley, and stream to stream, for months and years; when she came, at length to the lodge of the friendly old Nocoos, or grandmothers, as they were called, who gave her final instructions how to proceed. She told her she was near the place where her son was, and directed her to build a lodge of shingoo, or cedar boughs, near the old Toad-Woman's lodge, and to make a little bark dish and squeeze her milk into it. 'Then,' she said, 'your first child (meaning the dog) will come and find you out.' She did accordingly, and in a short time she heard her son, now grown, going out to hunt, with his dog, calling out to him, 'Monedo Pewaubik, (that is, Steel or Spirit Iron), Twoe! Twoe!' She then set ready the dish, and filled it with her milk. The dog soon scented it, and came into the lodge; she placed it before him. 'See, my child,' said she, addressing him, 'the food you used to have from me, your mother.' The dog went and told his young master that he had found his *real* mother, and informed him that the old woman whom he called his mother, was not his mother; that she had stolen him when an infant in his cradle, and that he had himself followed her in hopes of getting him back. The young man and his dog then went on their hunting excursion, and brought back a great quantity of meat of all kinds. He said to his pretended mother, as he laid it down, 'Send some to the stranger that has arrived lately.' The old hag answered, 'No! why should I

send to her—the Sheegowish? He insisted; and she at last consented to take something, throwing it in at the door, with the remark, 'My son gives you, or feeds you this.' But it was of such an offensive nature, that she threw it immediately out after her.

"After this the young man paid the stranger a visit, at her lodge of cedar boughs, and partook of her dish of milk. She then told him she was his real mother, and that he had been stolen away from her by the detestable Toad-Woman, who was a witch. He was not quite convinced. She said to him, 'Feign yourself sick, when you go home, and when the Toad-Woman asks what ails you, say that you want to see your cradle; for your cradle was of wampum, and your faithful brother, the dog, bit a piece off to try and detain you, which I picked up, as I followed in your track. They were real wampum, white and blue, shining and beautiful.' She then showed him the pieces. He went home and did as his real mother bid him. 'Mother,' said he, 'why am I so different in my looks from the rest of your children?' 'Oh!' said she, 'it was a very bright clear blue sky when you were born; that is the reason.' When the Toad-Woman saw he was ill, she asked what she could do for him. He said nothing would do him good but the sight of his cradle. She ran immediately, and got a cedar cradle; but he said, 'That is not my cradle.' She went and got one of her own children's cradles, (for she had four,) but he turned his head and said, 'That is not mine.' She then produced the real cradle, and he saw it was the same in substance with the pieces the other had shown him; and he was convinced, for he could even see the marks of the dog's teeth upon it.

"He soon got well, and went out hunting, and killed a fat bear. He and his dog brother then stripped a fall pine of all its branches, and stuck the carcass on the top, taking the usual sign of his having killed an animal—the tongue. He told the Toad-Woman where he had left it, saying, 'It is very far, even to the end of the earth.' She answered, 'It is not so far but I can get it; so off she set. As soon as she was gone, the young man and his dog killed the Toad-Woman's children, and staked them on each side of the door, with a piece of fat in their mouths, and then went to his real mother and hastened her departure with them. The Toad-Woman spent a long time in finding the bear, and had much ado in climbing the tree to get down the carcass. As she got near home, she saw the children looking out, apparently, with the fat in their mouths, and was angry at them, saying, 'Why do you destroy the pomatum of your brother?' But her fury was great indeed, when she saw they were killed and impaled. She ran after the fugitives as fast as she could, and was near overtaking them, when the young man said, 'We are pressed hard, but let this stay her progress,' throwing his fire-stick behind him, which caused the Toad-Woman to slip and fall repeatedly. But still she pursued and gained on them, when he threw behind him his flint, which again retarded her, for it made her slip and stumble, so that her knees were bleeding; but she continued to follow on, and was gaining ground, when the young man said, 'Let the Osban shaw go min un (snake berry) spring up to detain her,' and immediately these berries spread like scarlet all over the path for a long distance, which she could not avoid stooping down to pick and eat. Still she went on, and was again advancing on them, when the young man at last said to the dog, 'Brother, chew her into mummy, for she plagues us.' So the dog, turning round, seized her and tore her to pieces, and they escaped."

THE DRAMA.

St. James's.—On Friday week, M. Sainville, an actor new to the English public, joined his comrades of the Palais Royal. M. Sainville is a man of good, unctuous, and characteristic acting, a most valuable accession to form a complete company for the stereotyped personification of rough honest natures,—such a man we have in Bartley, on our English stage,—but

though an important adjunct, an actor probably not original enough to constitute *per se* an attractive performer. The play chosen was the *Bonhomme Richard*, noticed at the time of its production by our Paris correspondent, the groundwork being the simulated dissipation of a rich old countryman, in order to retrieve his rake of a nephew, by showing him in his own person a picture of the consequences of misconduct, and affording a timely warning. The play is neatly but not very remarkably written.

On Saturday, *Monte Christo*, as the Irish say, *streathed* off the English stage.

Princess's.—On Monday, an English version of Donizetti's opera, *La Fille du Regiment*, was brought out at this theatre. From the inefficiency of the orchestra, the overture produced but little effect, nor was the opening chorus better. Jenny Lind's celebrated character, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, was performed by Mme. Anna Thillon, who, though always charming, did not please us so much as in many of her original parts; she was, however, encoined in the favourite rondo, "Who has not seen or heard, of the gallant Twenty-third," and also in the trio, at the commencement of the second act, with the *Marchioness and Sulpice*, in which the "ratalan" is introduced. Mr. Allen, as *Tonio*, sung the romance, "Near my charming Marie to live," very sweetly, and was deservedly encoined. At the close of the piece, Mme. Thillon was called before the curtain; and the whole opera appeared to give considerable satisfaction to the numerous audience, though we are bound to confess that the choruses were exceedingly imperfect. So far as such deficiency in opera could be compensated by scenery was accomplished, for the mountainous landscape in the Tyrol was exceedingly beautiful.

VARIETIES.

Mr. Macready, whose departure for America in September, and ulterior movements in the English provinces previous to the bidding adieu to the stage, (to which he has been an honour, and would have been a Stay if fairly supported,) we announced some two months ago, has had his merits noticed in a new and remarkable manner,—her Majesty has commanded a benefit play for him at Drury Lane, and a number of noble and distinguished friends of the drama have signed a requisition to the same effect. Mr. Macready will play *Wolsey*, in three acts of *Henry VIII.*, and *Major Oakley*, in Colman's comedy of the *Jealous Wife*.

The Shakspeare House Subscription.—A general meeting in aid of the completion of this fund (still 500*l.* deficient, even were all the subscriptions paid up) is intended for next Saturday fortnight, when Lord Morpeth has consented to take the chair.

Civil List Pensions.—The *Observer* newspaper states that pensions of 200*l.* per annum each have been granted to Mr. Sheridan Knowles, the dramatic writer; Mr. W. Carleton, the Irish author; and Mr. J. C. Adams, the discoverer of the planet Neptune; and the *Dublin Evening Post* adds, that 100*l.* a-year has been given to the sisters of the lamented Professor McCullagh, of Dublin. Mr. Knowles' pension will, it is hoped, be conjoined with the curatorship of Shakspeare's House, at Avon, towards the endowment of which the Amateur Performers purpose to contribute 1000*l.*, in addition to any Government aid.

The Newswender's Benevolent and Provident Institution held its ninth anniversary on Tuesday, Mr. Harmer in the chair.—A satisfactory report was read. A capital stock has been realized of 950*l.*; and the income of the past year has risen to 140*l.* Temporary relief had been afforded to distressed applicants; and this evening a pension of 10*l.* per annum was voted to John Edwards, the first on the list, and upwards of sixty years of age. Mr. Harmer subscribed ten guineas to the fund, and we trust his liberal example will be followed by the feeling and humane; for the charity is well deserving of their support.

Two new minerals have been discovered by M. L. Smith. The one he calls *Medjidite*, a double sulphate of lime and uranium; the other, *Liebigite*, a carbonate of lime and uranium.

The Archaeological Institute assembles at Lincoln on the 25th of this month, under the presidency of Lord Brownlow. An excursion to explore the old town of Boston forms a part of the contemplated proceedings of the week.

The Eighth and last Philharmonic Concert took place on Monday, under the direction of her Majesty, and the rooms were consequently crowded. The performances were of a high order.

Benedict's Benefit Concert, in the forenoon, was also a great musical treat, and a long one. The love of the fashion for music must surely be strong in London, if we may judge from the endless number and unceasing recurrence of musical entertainments of all kinds. A friend of ours calculates that in the four months of the season, 100 days present above 2400 hours of instrumental and vocal performances, besides a multitude of extras, for public use.

Hanover Square Rooms.—On Wednesday, Mrs. Stephen Chambers gave a morning concert at these rooms, assisted by several artists of eminence. The vocal department was sustained by Mrs. Weiss, Miss Ellen Lyon, Mrs. Chambers, Miss Stewart, Miss O'Connor, Mr. Bodda, Mr. Barker, Mr. Whitworth, Mr. Handel Gear, and Mr. Delavante. The instrumentalists were—Mr. R. Blagrove, M. Silberberg, and Mrs. Stephen Chambers, on the pianoforte. This lady has but recently appeared before the public, but she has already attained a reputation in some measure commensurate with her high talent. Her fine touch and delicate expression were the theme of general admiration in a room crowded with a fashionable and musical audience. The concert was efficiently conducted by Mr. Handel Gear and Herr Mullenfeldt.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Alison's Europe, vol. 19, post 8vo, 6s.
Black's County Atlas of Scotland, 4to, cloth, 21s.
Boccius on Management of Fish in Fresh Water, 8vo, 5s.
Bohn's Antiquarian Library, vol. 6—Ellis' English Metrical Romances, cloth, 5s.
Scientific Library, vol. 2—Lectures on Painting, cloth, 5s.
Bryce's (J.) Geology, Astronomy, and Use of the Globes, 8vo, 3s.
Bull's (Thomas, M.D.) Management of Children, third edition, foolscap, cloth, 5s.
Carter's (S.) Midnight Effusions, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
Chapters on Flowers, seventh edition, foolscap, cloth, 6s.
Clarke's (Rev. C.) Letters to an Undergraduate of Oxford, foolscap, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Francis' (G.) Grammar of Botany, second edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s.
Glimer's Interest Tables, third edition, 5s.
Glendoulous; or, the Seven Churches, a Didactic Poem, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Graham's Compositors' Text Book, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Greenwell's (D.) Poems, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Halle's (H. F.) Exact Philosophy, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.
Jones' (Rev. T.) Fountain of Life, third edition, foolscap, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Kato Walsingham, 3 vols. royal 12mo, £1 11s. 6d.
Lectures to Young Men, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Moon's (The) Histories, a series of Tales, square, 3s. 6d.
Nicholson's Architecture, by Gwilt, royal 8vo, cloth, £1 11s. 6d.
Noel's (Baptist) Sermons, preached at the Royal Chapel, Whitehall, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Peter Jones; an Autobiography, 12mo, cloth, 3s.
Fiddling's (H.) the Sailor's Horn Book, 8vo, 10s. 6d.
Ralph's (John) British Desmides, royal 8vo, cloth, £1 16s.
Rankin's Abstract, vol. 7, post 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
Return again Whittington, and other Poems, 2s.
State of Man before the promulgation of Christianity, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Steinmetz's (A.) History of Jesuits, 3 vols. 8vo, cloth, £2 5s.
Tenant of Wildfell Hall, by Acton Bell, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d.
The Kellys and O'Kellys; or, Masters and Servants, by A. Trollope, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d.
Thompson's (E. P.) Life in Russia, post 8vo, 12s.
Welsford's (H. Esq.) Mithridates; or, an Essay on Language, 8vo, cloth, 14s.
Williams' (J. D.) Companion Book and Supplement to Blackstone's Commentaries, 8vo, 12s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1848.	h. m. s.	1848.	h. m. s.
July 1	12 3 30.5	July 5	12 4 14.6
2	3 42.0	6	4 28.5
3	3 53.2	7	4 44.7
4	4 4.1		

Early in July will be published, in 1 vol. fcap. 8vo. with Frontispiece and 500 accurate Engravings on Wood, 10s. cloth, or 12s. embossed roan.

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